Gloucester

set out

to improve

survival

prospects

war. one

E. URFINE

PAGES 40-42



THE CRADLE **OF EDUCATION** Is school the right place for two-year-olds?

the gap is now minus 33

points. This compares with

minus 39 at the end of March

Approval for Mr Major

among Tory supporters has

also improved to plus 39, around the peak levels touched only a couple of times

Disapproval of the way the

Government is running the

country has also dropped a

little from previous very high

levels. Nonetheless, by a five-

to-one margin, people are dissatisfied rather than satis-

The poll offers at most a

glint of hope for the Tories,

But they will remain cautious

until there is evidence of a

pick-up in the party's rating,

especially after raising expec-

fied with the Government.

and minus 50 last year.

since 1993,

PAGE 18

SPRING BOOKS

Peter Ackroyd on Bernard Shaw Ben Macintyre on Allan Pinkerton, Derwent May on Anthony Powell Valerie Grove on Djuna Barnes

PAGES 40. 41



APPOINTMENTS 28 PAGES of top jobs

First hint of 'feel-good' factor

Tories given glimmer of hope by poll

PEOPLE have at last started to feel more optimistic about the economic outlook and are more positive about John Major than at any time for three years, according to the latest MORI poll for The Times.

But the shift in attitude has not yet changed voting intentions or the expectation of big Conservative losses in next week's council elections.

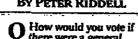
The poll, conducted last weekend, shows that support for the Tories remained at 28 per cent over the past month, Labour slipped three points to 54 per cent — its lowest level since September - while the Liberal Democrats are up a point at 14 per cent.

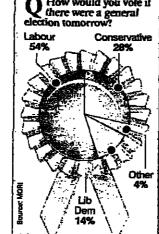
MORI has for the first time

this month listed the Referendum Party in its voting intentions question, but only six people said they planned to vote for it, too few to register in the percentage shares.

Tory strategists will be pleased at the first real sign of the "feel-good" factor that has remained elusive in spite of the evidence of economic growth. The MORI economic optimism index has improved sharply to its highest level since November 1994, Many of those interviewed will have just noticed the Budget tax cuts in their pay packets and benefited from recent mort-

gage rate cuts. The index, measuring those who think that the country's general economic condition will improve rather than get worse, has been in the range of minus 17 to minus 19 points since last summer, but has now improved to minus six.





he is doing his job as Prime Minister than are satisfied.



factor's returning"

Mr Major's personal rating has also improved to its best level since January 1993. While many more people are still dissatisfied with the way

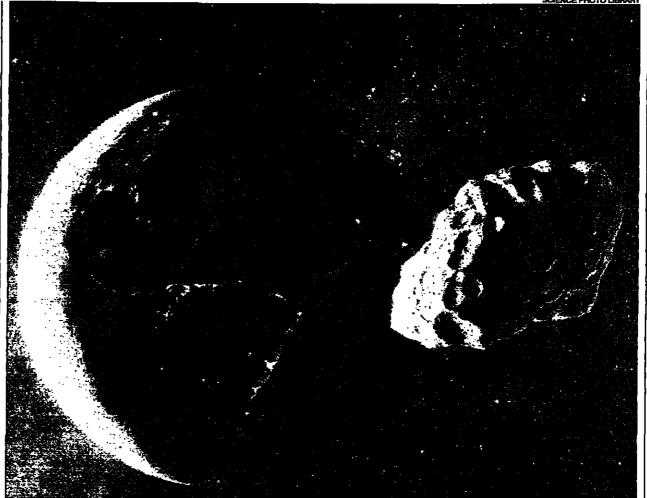
tations before the Staffordshire South-East by-election which turned into one of their worst defeats. The drop in the Labour rating is not yet significant. Tony Blair's personal rating has fallen a little, but is still higher than for the other two party leaders. Half the public are satisfied with the way he is doing his job, with 28 per cent dissatisfied. Moreover, Lab-

> five-to-one. Paddy Ashdown retains a positive rating, among both the public as a whole and Liberal Democrat supporters.

our supporters approve of his

performance by more than

MORI interviewed 1.947 adults at 146 points across Britain from April 19 to 222. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (10%), are un-decided (7%) or refused to say (3%).



Collision course: an artist's impression, using computer simulation, of an asteroid passing close to Earth

Eros has blind date with Earth

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

AN ASTEROID twice the size of the one that_killed the dinosaurs could be on a collision course with the Earth.

Should Eros, a chunk of rock nearly 15 miles long, hit us, the effect would be catastrophic. When an object half as big hit the Earth 65 million years ago, it created a huge crater and hurled so much debris into the atmosphere that the climate was changed. vegetation died, and the dinosaurs disappeared.

Panic would be premature, however. There is "no significant danger" that Eros will collide with us in the next 100,000 years. On a much longer time scale, however, such an impact is quite likely.

The calculations have been made by an Italian-French team, led by Dr Paolo Farinelli of the University of Pisa. Working out the future movements of asteroids is not entirely straightforward because on a prolonged timescale they are chaotic tiny changes in starting conditions can make a big differ-

ence to the end result. Close encounters with other planets, including Mars, can alter the orbits and inexact knowledge of what the orbit is makes long-term prediction impossible. Even the computer programme used to make the calculations can affect the

So the team, reporting in Nature, has not attempted an

exact prediction but has used two different computers to simulate a range of eight possible evolutions of the orbit of Eros.

Over the next 100,000 years or so all these simulations show Eros behaving normally, its orbit crossing that of Mars but not coming worryingly close to Earth. But over longer times, three of the eight orbits simulated do evolve into Earth-crossers and one produces a collision with the Earth just over one mil-

lion years from now. Although our simulations indicate no significant danger of a catastrophic impact by this large, near-Earth asteroid during the next 100,000 years, such a collision is likely in the far future" the researchers Eros is the largest of the

near-Earth asteroids, going around the Sun on an elliptical path whose closest approach to the Earth's orbit is 14 million miles, and whose most distant is 72 million miles. A spacecraft called Near — Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous - is now on its way to Eros, and will go into orbit around it in 1999. Launched at a cost of \$122

million (£82 million), Near should tell us a great deal about asteroids in general and Eros in particular.

The US space agency Nasa chose Eros, not because it is a threat, but because it is relatively easy to reach.

100 Tories revolt against divorce reforms

By JILL SHERMAN AND ALICE THOMSON

MORE than a hundred Tory MPs, including 16 ministers and whips, voted against the Lord Chancellor's divorce reforms last night.

In one of the biggest revolts against an important element of the Conservative programme, the Government had to rely on Labour to get its

proposals through. Within minutes of the free vote on whether the concept of fault should be scrapped in divorce proceedings, two for-mer ministers had called for progress on the Family Reform Bill to be reconsidered.

John Patten the former Education Secretary claimed that Lord Mackay of Clashfern's proposals were now in Labour's hands and would get through only with its backing. I have never knwon the Government's Bill to be at the mercy of the opposition party," he said. "It would be wise to halt progress on the Bill now and reflect whether it is wise to continue."

And the former Chief Whip Michael Jopling said: "Well over 100 MPs on the government's side voted against what is the guts of the Bill. I ask the Leader of the House, when things have cooled down and the dust has settled, that he and his colleagues must reconsider whether they should proceed or not with the Bill."

Ministers and whips who voted for an amendment to keep the concept of fault included John Bowis, Simon Burns. James Clappison. Derek Conway, David Davis. Dr Liam Fox, John Horam, Tim Kirkhope, David Maclean, Patrick McLoughlin, Tom Sackville, lain Sproat, John Watts, Ann Widdecombe and David Willetts. They were joined by Michael Trend and Continued on page 2, col 5

Debate, page 9

PLO ends fight against Israel

The Palestine Liberation Organisation has declared an end to its 32-year armed struggle against Israel, voting to drop from its charter all references to the destruction of the Jewish state. A spokesman said the PLO parliament-in-exile had voted 504 in favour of amending the charter, with 54 voting against. Hezbollah fights on, page 16

Clinton threat to Sinn Fein

President Clinton is expected to sever relations with Gerry Adams if the IRA refuses to resume its ceasefire and disqualifies Sinn Fein from allparty talks on Northern Ireland's future. Mr Adams yesterday confirmed that Sinn Fein will contest the Northern Ireland elections......Page 2



The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



Major says pulling out of | Lang puts block on EU is 'cloud-cuckoo-land' | electricity takeovers

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR, AND JAMES LANDALE JOHN MAJOR yesterday told

politicians pressing for withdrawal from the European Union that they were living in cloud-cuckoo-land However he responded to the rising tide of public and media disaffection with Brus-

sels by signalling a hardening of British attitudes within the He delivered his sharpest warning yet that he will use the British veto if he fails to get his way in the current intergovernmental conference (IGC) on Europe's future, said that he was looking for an EU constructed in Britain's image,

co-operation if it continues to try to impose the Social Chapter in Britain by the backdoor. Mr Major's delicate attempt to answer the growing threat posed by Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party

and hinted at a policy of non-

while reassuring Tory critics that he will fight any further moves towards integration came as John Redwood, the former Tory leadership challenger, met Sir James to warn him that he was in danger of splitting the Euro-sceptic vote and letting in a federalist

Labour Party.
Mr Redwood, as he had expected, failed to persuade Sir James not to put up candidates against the Tories, although the two men found they shared a broad measure of agreement about the kind of Europe they want to see. Mr Major, in his speech to

the Institute of Directors, was trying to contain the growing demands for withdrawal while satisfying the clamour, intensified since the beef crisis erupted, from within the Tory party, MPs and some of his Cabinet for him to take a stand. His first intention was to kill the idea that there is any alternative for Britain to full membership. He spoke of the hard-headed benefits Britain had gained and said it was naive, wrong and damaging to suggest that the choice for Britain was to go along with every demand its partners made or "head for the exit."

Anyone who seriously thought of leaving should explain what that meant for inward investment and the impact on the City, he said.

"Some suggest we could just negotiate a trading relationship with Europe. But frankly the idea that if we were outside Continued on page 2, col 6

Major speech, page 11 Leading article, page 21 EMU rejected, page 25 Conference report, page 26 City Diary, page 29

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

TWO takeover bids which would have revolutionised Britain's electricity industry were blocked yesterday by the Government.

Ian Lang, the Trade and Industry Secretary, said the bids by two generating com-panies would be detrimental to competition. His decision has blocked the £2.5 billion purchase of Southern Electric, the company serving the south of England, by generator National Power, and the £1.9 billion takeover bid by PowerGen of Midlands Elec-

tricity.

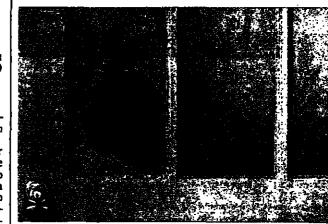
A billion pounds was wiped off the value of the privatised

electricity companies after the ruling. Southern Electric lost £200 million from its value with shares falling 79p to 824p. Midlands Electricity lost £157 million when its shares fell 4lp to 370p. In taking the decision, Mr

Lang overturned a Monopolies and Mergers Commission

One of the reasons for splitting the industry at the sell-off six years ago was to introduce more competition and bring down the price to the customer. However, domestic consumers have benefited only marginally, while shareholders have seen their holdings soar and have received a stream of special payouts from a cash-rich industry which has shed more than 43,000 jobs since privatisation. Controversy over the planned takeovers heightened last week when Southern Company, a giant American utility, said that it was interested in merging with National Power.

> Row continues, page 25 Pennington, page 27 Stock market, page 28



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£72m bill for rail-link before work begins

By JONATHAN PRYNN

TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE Government has paid E72 million in fees to consultants, bankers and lawyers for advice on the Channel

Tunnel rail link, even though building work starts only next spring.
In all 74 firms have been hired by the Government since 1992 Labour said yesterday it was "incredible" so much taxpayers' money had been

spent before a yard of the 68-mile high-speed link was built. Glenda Jackson, the party's London Transport spokeswoman, said: "Once again, taxpayers' money has been finding its way to the coffers of companies with links to the Tory party. This can only add to the aura of sleaze surrounding this blighted administration."

The contract to build the line expected to open in 2002, was awarded in Pebruary to London & Continental

Richard Branson's Virgin Group and National Express. It will receive a £1.4 billion Treasury subsidy. Advisory work was commissioned by Union Railways, a government-owned company responsible to date for planning and managing the £3 billion project.

Tory MPs who advised companies involved include Sir Edward Heath. the former Prime Minister, David Howell, a Transport Secretary during

The rail link will enable Eurostar trains to go at 186mph in England, saving 30 minutes on journeys between London and Paris.

the 1980s, and Eric Pickles, a party vice-chairman. Lord Parkinson, also

once Transport Secretary, has chaired

one company. The names were

disclosed in the 1995 register of

members' interests, but it is not known if the links still existed when

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contracts were awarded.

Tory Broad Church celebrates meaningless ritual

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

That sort of MPs do we have? Splashed across the pages of most of our newspapers yesterday morning was the story of a Nottingham school's attempt to expel a violent young troublemaker, Richard Wilding. By coincidence, yesterday afternoon featured an hour of questions to the Education Secretary. Some could have been used by MPs to raise that issue. But did any Tory or Labour backbencher mention Wilding? Did the Opposition

front bench ask about him? Not a peep. Possibly MPs simply forgot about it. The scope and level of discussion in these dog-days of a political dynasty is pitiful, and growing more so. The Government is jumpy and defensive, the Opposition terrified of serious

Yesterday the Tories used The only other subject the an hour of questions on education and employment to repeat ad nauseam that Labour's plans for a minimum wage would cost jobs. This was raised on Ouestion I,raised again on Question 2. and raised again and again by backbenchers (primed) and ministers (self-priming) in the questions which followed.

though none was actually

about the minimum wage.

Tories wanted to discuss was Harriet Harman's and Tony Blair's choices of schools for their children. This, too, had nothing to do with any of the questions, but successive members slipped in their weary jibes regardless.

On Labour's side, the tone is grindingly negative. You get no sense of belief in something better or enthusiasm for new ideas, just a constant, carping

insistence that to every problem there is a Tory cause. Labour dare not even talk about spending these days.

The Liberal Democrats were locked in a venemous internal dispute between David Alton (Lib Dem. Liverpool Mossley Hill) and the party's education spokesman, Don Foster. Mr Alton, a Christian of the toxic tendency, has accused Mr Foster of saying he wants to abolish

religious schools and school the other, the overall impresworship. Mr Foster, a careerist of the bland tendency, insists he said no such thing. Liberal Democrats, when they fight each other, fight like weasels in a sack. Yesterday the Tories had fun prodding the sack.

One turned in despair to the text of the Prime Minister's speech that morning to the Institute of Directors. It is difficult to work out what this speech means. Instead of sitting on the fence in the timehonoured way, Mr Major has taken to hopping rapidly backwards and forwards from one side of the fence to sion being of an ambiguous blur, like a humming-bird's wings. Thus the IoD speech could be intoned by two choirs, in the way of the versicles and responses in a High Church service. Europhiles could take one part,

Eurosceptics the counterpart. Our psalm is taken from the text of that loD speech. It should be chanted in plainsong in each section an oblique stroke is used to indicate a changed note: the first down, the second up. We are in Europe and

know we are all staying | in | Europe."

There are some who question / that / member-

"I do not seek confrontation: nor do I / ex/pect it." "If it isn't in our interest I

will just / say / no." There is a lot I that I helps "Not every decision is what

we would / have / liked." "But neither is every decision comfortable for every of ther I country." There are things we don't

like / about / Europe." But I also see clearly the hard-headed benefits Britain-I has I gained."

Clinton ready to ditch Adams over ceasefire

By MARTIN FLETCHER AND PHILIP WEBSTER

PRESIDENT CLINTON is expected to sever relations with Gerry Adams if the IRA refuses to resume its ceasefire and disqualifies Sinn Fein from all-party talks on Northern Ireland's future.

Highly placed sources say that the Sinn Fein president has been left in no doubt that the policy of the American Administration towards his party will change dramatically if it declines to participate in the next stage of a peace process in which Mr Clinton has invested much.

Mr Adams confirmed yesterday as expected that Sinn Fein will contest the elections in Northern Ireland to be held next month, but again gave no hint that a new ceasefire was likely. The SDLP also announced it would field candidates, clearing the way to a poll on May 30. Mr Clinton,

A LEADING member of Sinn

Fein said last night that there

was "no prospect whatsoever"

of a new ceaselire unless the

IRA could be convinced there

Martin McGuinness said

that, as things stood, it would

be a waste of time for him or

Gerry Adams to go to the IRA

and ask for a new ceasefire.

The republicans are barred

from the all-party talks due to

negoniations.

"real" peace

after his decision to see Mr Adams during his visit to Belfast last November, is said to be ready to cut him adrift if he lets him down again. The Administration believes Sinn Fein should be allowed

into talks if the ceasefire returns, even if the announcement comes only days before the projected starting date for discussions of June 10. Mr Clinton wants the talks to go ahead without Sinn Fein if the ceasefire is not resumed.

While Mr Adams has a few weeks of his existing US visa to run, future applications would be likely to be rejected. "If Mr Adams becomes a pariah on the international stage then so be it," a senior source has said. Mr Clinton is continuing to

take a keen interest in the

start on June 10 unless the IRA

the moment there is no pros-

pect whatsoever of a restora-

tion of the ceasefire, unless we

can be in a position to go to the

IRA and convince them that

we are going to have real

and meaningful peace

Speaking on BBC Northern

Ireland's Newsline, Mr Mc-

5 things you

didn't know about

O The average "meadmings" is insured for only 2 years' eavings.

Of the average inortgage linked life policy sovers the house but "
will rarely provide for the tamily.

O A widow/widowet with 2 children can receive as little as £79.

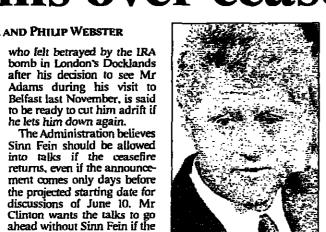
(a) It can cost as little as 27p a day to protect your family with

life after death.

3 The average family spends more than £800 a month.

Mr McGuinness said: "At

restores the ceasefire.



Clinton: felt betrayed by Docklands bomb

peace process and has had a stream of meetings with Northern Ireland politicians. At his recent talks with Tony Blair he made a point of congratulating him on maintaining support for the Gov-

McGuinness rules out fresh truce

feeling in the nationalist com-

munity that "the British Gov-

ernment and the unionists are

not serious about negotiating

an honest and just settlement to this conflict". He also said that the ceaselire of August 1994 had never been permanent; it was a complete cessation which could have been made permanent only through dialogue between the Governments and Guinness said there was a all political parties.

White House has been hardening sharply against Sinn Fein since it renewed its campaign of violence. It believes the IRA should have resumed its ceasefire after Mr Major and John Bruton agreed a timetable for elec-

tions and all-party talks. A senior Administration official said the White House had been pressing hard for a restoration of the ceasefire so Sinn Fein could participate in

the all-party talks. No final decision on what to do if it does not take part has been made. But the official said it was obvious that, without the ceasefire, "Adams is not going to have the same access he has had in the past. Without a ceasefire we have problems and we have made that very clear.

The official pointed to the dramatic shift in the way Mr Adams was treated on his St Patrick's Day visit to Washington last month. He was denied his customary invitation to the White House and the Administration admitted him to the US only so he could hear first-hand how much Irish-America deplored the return to violence.

Tony Lake. President Clinton's national security adviser. had a secret meeting with Mr Adams away from the White House, but used it to stress the importance of restoring the ceasefire. The Administration continues privately to relay that message.

Brussels demands action by **Britain** to curb BSE

By Charles Bremner, PHILIP WEBSTER AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

THE European Commission told Britain yesterday that time was running out for it to produce a firm plan for eradicating "mad cow" disease if it wanted EU farm ministers to ease the beef ban next week.

Jacques Santer, the Commission President, was reported by his spokesman to have sent a message to John Major urging him to avoid the situation where the Commission and member states receive imprecise and unwritten indications too late" for next

Monday's meeting. However, British officials said the Prime Minister had received no message although M Santer had made the point in a telephone conversation with Stephen Wall, the British Ambassador to the EU.

The warning came as the National Farmers' Union met the Prime Minister and Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, at Downing Street yesterday and announced that t would launch a joint legal challenge to the export ban with representatives of beef hauliers and exporters in the High Court today. Afterwards Mr Hogg, who

had lengthy discussions with Franz Fischler, the EU Farm Commissioner in Brussels on Tuesday, spoke of moving in a "step-by-step"way to a solution. But the Government is still a long way from reaching Ministers want a guarantee

that Brussels will lift at least part of the ban - for example on semen and embryos and beef-derived products such as gelatine and tallow - when the Government unveils details of the slaughter policy. Britain is fighting the insistence of Brussels and EU member states that the cull should be allowed to operate for some months before the ban is lifted. Some EU states want the Government to slaughter all herds which have had any case of BSE. which would wipe out half the dairy cattle in Britain, involving millions of animals.

Mr Major told the Commons last week that the Government would soon be starting legal proceedings of

The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday: "We expect that it will run in parallel with the NFU action before the European Court."

Not all exporters support the move. Nick Askaroff, managing director of Anglo Dutch Meats of Eastbourne, said: "As an industry it would do us no good at all as our export markets will still refuse to take the product."

Leading article, page 21



Major warning

Continued from page 1 the EU we could somehow

become a trading haven on the edge of Europe with all the benefits of that vital market of 370 million, while others fix the rules without any regard at all to our national selfinterest. is Cloud-cuckoo-

However, for much of his speech the Prime Minister set put his determination "passionately" to reject the centralising aims of some of his partners. "At Maastricht I said no to policies I thought would be damaging. If I had not won on those issues there would have been no treaty.

"On the IGC we have set out our position. Nothing can be imposed on us in the IGC unless we agree. If it is not in our interest I won't agree. I

will just say no." He said that Britain aimed to "build a Europe that is more

in our image,"

He said: "If we win the arguments to build a Europe of nation states, all of Europe will benefit. If others choose to go in a direction that we reject

they need to recognise that we



Redwood: failed to get

will stand our ground and will not follow them. The Europe that evolves will be flexible and will need to be - to recognise and accommodate our national interest and beliefs as well as theirs."

He added that he had told his partners that they must stop trying to get round the Social Chapter opt-out by trying to impose provisions such by other means.

Mr Redwood and Sir James met for 50 minutes at the Dorchester Hotel in London. Afterwards Mr Redwood said: "I haven't managed to persuade him to back the Conservative Party as the best way of achieving the kind of Europe we both want."

"But I still think it would be better if Sir James's candidates were withdrawn from the Conservative Party's point of view because then there is no uncertainty."

Sir James agreed that they had been "broadly speaking" in agreement although not in "total harmony". He said: "John Redwood and I have broadly similar positions on the type of Europe we want to see but the Referendum Party has only one objective and that is to have a referendum."

Although he made clear that the challenge to the Tories would continue, he indicated that he might not put up a candidate against Mr Red-wood. Mr Redwood would, however, have to back a full referendum on whether Britain should be run by Brussels or Westminster, and not just on the narrower issue of a single currency.

Major speech, page 11 Leading article, page 21 EMU rejected, page 25 Conference report, page 26

ENEWS IN BRIDE **Amnesty** on guns will last a month

A firearms amnesty is to be held in June to capitalise on public revulsion after the Dunblane massacre. People handing in illegal weapons at police stations will not be prosecuted unless it can be proved the weapons have been used in criminal

A £75,000 publicity cam-paign will herald the launch of the amnesty, running from June 3 to June 30 in England, Wales and Scotland. It will not operate in Northern Ireland.

Teachers to strike

Twenty teachers at Glaisdale comprehensive school in Nottinghamshire are to begin an indefinite strike tomorrow to avoid teaching Richard Wilding, 13, who has returned after being expelled for allegedly threatening staff and attacking pupils.

Labour tax row

The accountants KPMG cancelled seminars on Labour's tax plans after claims by Gordon Brown they were "peddling rumours and lies". KPMG said: "Misreporting of these seminars has distorted their content. The firm has and always will be apolitical."

Drug girl, 12

A 12-year-old girl at Dame Allan's independent school in Newcastle upon Tyne has been accused of selling marijuana to another pupil. The head teacher said yesterday:

"I am conducting an inquiry to find out who was involved."

Video stopped

Production of a video showing scenes of drunken youths invading football pitches across Europe was halted after Gordon Banks, the former England goalkeeper, said he had been duped into giving an interview to the makers of Hooligan 96.

Rape awards

Two prostitutes who brought the first successful private prosecution for rape have been awarded compensation of £5,000 each. The Crown Prosecution Service had said was insufficient evi dence to prosecute the man, from Margate, Kent.

med by

mail

Stalker struck off

A German doctor who stalked the Princess of Wales was struck off the medical register for drug abuse. Dr Klaus Wagner, 37, of Stratford, east London, prescribed himself "litres" morphine-based drugs.

Boy, 14, is held

A boy aged 14 was arrested in connection with the killing of a 17-year-old supermarket worker. The victim, Andrew Weighell, died of a skull fracture after being hit with a golf club on a playing field at Redcar, on Teesside.

X-ray protest

The Royal College of Radiol ogists said "scaremongering" in a Panorama programme on X-rays had led to patients cancelling treatments. A programme spokeswoman said: "What is wrong with letting people know of a small risk?"

Accountant wins

Stewart Harries, 35, a chartered accountant in London unfairly dismissed after refusing to hide income irregularities for the Germanowned Siemens engineering firm, was awarded £15,000 by City Diary, page 29 an industrial tribunal.

It's an alarming fact that many people are seriously under-insured. Some of them are simply not aware how protection for your mo much money their family would need, should the worst happen. Others may believe that the necessary life cover would be too costly for them to afford.

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for a free luxury travel wallet..

For the life you don't yet know

Divorce revolt

Continued from page 1 Dame Angela Rumbold, both Tory vice-chairmen, and at least 17 parliamentary private

The amendment, put forward by the former Trade Minister Edward Leigh. was nevertheless defeated by 267 votes to 137.

Business managers were expecting an even bigger revolt on the second free vote last night to extend the cooling-off period for divorce from a year to 18 months. The Lord Chancellor has argued in favour of keeping to the 12-month period but is said to be relaxed about extending it slightly.

Tony Blair voted in favour of removing fault from the divorce process and was intending to back the 12-month cooling off period. However. his aides said that he intended to back an amendment during later stages of the Bill for a

mandatory reconciliation

Before the vote, Tory backbenchers voiced concerns that the reforms, which had a stormy passage through the Lords, would encourage rather than prevent family breakdown. Mr Leigh urged the Government to scrap the idea of no-fault divorce after a year. saying Parliament should lay down a moral cornerstone for

marriage partners. Dame Angela Rumbold, said that the Bill should concentrate on making the marriage contract more solid, not less. "Is the message we really want to give to the nation that these marriage

vows mean nothing?" But the solicitors' Family Law Association welcomed the vote, describing it as useful in reducing antagonism.

we just wanted you to ke ow





Blair's aide was a character assassin, MP tells libel trial

By RUSSCLL JENKINS

APRIL 25 10g

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A LABOUR MP told the High Court yesterday that he saw a journalist, now one of Tony Blair's closest aides, soliciting signatures on a hand-drafted parliamentary motion.

George Galloway, MP for Glasgow Hillhead, said he saw Alastair Campbell, then the political editor of the Daily Mirror, with a newly elected MP outside the Commons tearnom. The journalist was urging the MP to put his signature on an early day motion (EDM).

Mr Galloway said he took a special interest in the "perambulations" of Mr Campbell because he regarded him for years as the "hired character assassin" for Robert Maxwell. Mr Galloway suggested that, now Mr Campbell held an important position as chief press secretary to the Leader of the Opposition, "I have to keep these comments to myself". But he said: "My feelings are the same - that a man who could serve with such gusto the greatest thief of the 20th century in this country is the kind of person to be kept a wary eye on."

Mr Galloway was giving evidence on the second day of a High Court action brought by Rupert Allason, Tory MP for Torbay. He is suing Mr Campbell, Mirror Group Newspapers and Andy Mc-Smith, another political journalist, for malicious falsehood and is asking for aggravated

damages. Mr Allason, the author of best-selling spy books written under the pseudonym Nigel West, claims that Mr Campbell was behind a fabricated story that appeared in the Mirror in November 1992. The story said that 50 MPs were challenging Mr Allason to hand over to the Maxwell pensioners £250,000 in libel profits he had made from the newspaper.

The Mirror Group acknowledges that the EDM had been drafted by one of its staff but strongly denies malicious



George Galloway, above, and Alastair Campbell



falsehood, that there was any malice behind publication or that Mr Campbell wrote the motion or the story.

Jimmy Boyce, the newly elected MP for Rotherham, tabled the motion. Mr Galloway said that his colleague, who had since died, was close to tears and later expressed remorse. Such a motion was unprecedented in my experience" Mr Galloway added. Richard Caborn, MP for

Sheffield Central, said in evidence that he was buttonholed by David Bradshaw, Mr Campbell's deputy, and asked whether he was prepared to suggested that it should be done by Mr Boyce to give him some experience. "Later that evening David

table the motion. Mr Caborn

the number of signatures and I assured him that Jimmy Boyce would get 50."

Mr Caborn said he came across Mr Allason haranguing Mr Boyce in the members' lobby after a division. "Jimmy Boyce said that Rupert Allason had said that Alastair Campbell had tabled the motion. He had no idea who Alastair Campbell was." Charles Wilson, managing

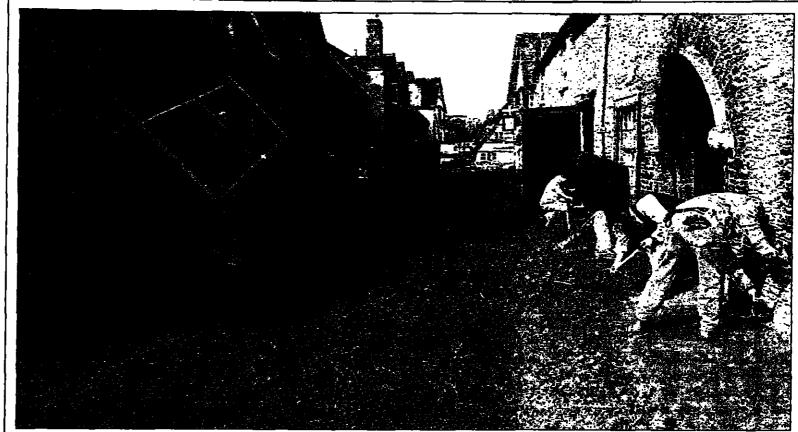
Newspapers and acting editor of The Independent, also gave evidence. He had investigated Mr Allason's complaints

He told the court that he could not recall who drafted the EDM. He told the judge, Sir Maurice Drake, that he had no reason to believe it was Mr Campbell.

Earlier, Mr Allason, concluding his evidence in chief, was questioned closely about his knowledge of Mr Campbell's involvement in drawing up and seeking support for the EDM. The MP had earlier told the court that he had been warned by four people, two MPs and two lobby correspondents, that Mirror journalists and Mr Campbell in particular were looking to place the motion on a backbencher.

Mr Allason agreed with Charles Gray, QC, for the Mirror, that "he put two and two together to make five" when he concluded that Mr Campbell was the motion's author. He said: "I wouldn't say it was guesswork. I must admit that I couldn't believe that Mr Campbell would be willing to involve other people in this clandestine activity.

Mr Allason admitted that he had subsequently tried to get Mr Campbell sacked from his job as political editor of the Mirror and had later boasted around Westminster that he had been successful. He had written a letter to David Montgomery, company chief executive, telling him that there was a remedy "immediately available to you that I invite you to exercise".



Muddying the name of costume drama: Technicians from Moll Flanders try to clean up after rain turned Church Street into a quagmire

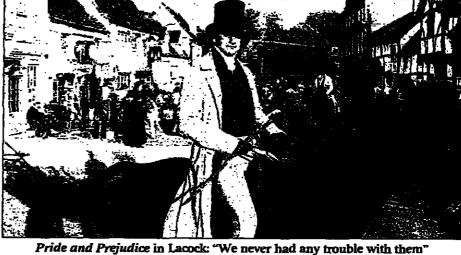
Moll flounders in the mud of real-life drama

FILM-MAKERS were a little too successful when they tried to re-create the road conditions of the 18th century in a picturesque National Trust village. They hid the modern surfaces under 70 tons of soil, which promptly turned into a muddy quagmire after unexpected overnight rain.

Yesterday the residents of Lacock, Wiltshire - pop. 1.080 - were furious over the far from special effects of the Granada production of Daniel Defoe's Moll Flanders. One said: "The BBC filmed Pride and Prejudice here and we never had any trouble with them.'

The soil was spread along Church Street in the village which is standing in for old Colchester. Susan Walker, 86, who has lived in Lacock for half a century, said: "It is terrible. I am completely stuck I don't dare cross the road for fear of falling over, which means I won't be able to go out to our local pension-"Quite a few films have

been done here over the



vears, but it has never been like this. This is a real nuisance. They have blocked the drains off with all that mud, so if we have much more rain my house could get flooded."

Margaret Vaughan, owner of a teashop, said: "I think they were rather stupid putting it all down in the rain. I have 150 old age

pensioners coming for lunch today. I don't know how we said: "Vehicles were skidding are going to get them through all this.

"The carpets are so filthy that, when guests come in, they think they have arrived on the mud flats at Westonsuper-Mare. I have had to wash all their boots and stockings."

Nick Sandford, a spokes-

a dreadful mess. The National Trust is not very happy about it. We are talking to Granada and we apologise to all people affected by it."

turned into a sea of mud. It is

Defoe's adventure was first published in 1722, telling the story of a criminal heroine and her spiritual awakening. Ironically, the same author had much to say on the muddy state of the nation's roads in his subsequent travel book, A Tour thro' the Whole Island of Great Britain.

The new production, a E4 million costume drama, is being filmed at locations around the country, and is scheduled for release later this year. A Granada spokesman said: "Unfortunately we are victims of the weather. It is one of the perils of filming on location rather than in the studio.

"At the moment we are doing everything we can to make the best of a bad situation. Of course, if any damage has been caused by the filming we will pay compensation."

injunction served by e-mail

By Frances GIBB

A LAW firm has broken with centuries of legal tradition by serving a High Court injunction via e-mail.

Schilling & Lom obtained the order from Mr Justice Newman after an individual threatened to distribute libellous material about one of its clients on the Internet. The threats were sent from an e-mail address on the Continent. Jonathan Coad, a partner

with the London law firm, said: "We believe this is a first in Britain. Normally writs or orders have to be served by hand; it can take several days to locate the person and the costs can be huge. The civil process of writ-

issuing is still bound up in tradition. If you go down to the High Court to issue a writ, it is recorded in leather-bound ledgers by hand." By contrast, the injunction was issued electronically for the cost of a local telephone call. This precedent will make

the service of proceedings. particularly outside the country, faster and less expensive," Mr Coad said. "It must be the

High Court | Judge says coma woman should be allowed to die

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

JANET JOHNSTON, who has been in a persistent vegetative state for four years after taking an overdose, should be allowed to die, a Scottish judge ruled yesterday.

Lord Cameron of Lochbroom said that Law Hospital in Strathclyde can stop artificially feeding Mrs Johnston, a 53-year-old grandmother.

Lord Cameron said he had taken into account arguments made by lawyers acting in Mrs Johnston's interests that she be kept alive. He had also heard from four independent neurosurgeons that she had no chance of recovery. It would be a dereliction of his duty if he did not allow doctors to stop feeding her.

Mrs Johnston breathes for herself and can open and shut her eyes but she has not responded to any stimuli and has to be fed artificially. Doctors at Law Hospital will wait until any potential appeal has been heard before withdrawing her feeding tube. She will then die of dehydration

within 14 days. Yesterday at his home in Allanton, Strathclyde, Peter Johnston, her husband of 33 years, wept at the decision. He .

has backed the court case brought by the hospital and wants feeding to be withdrawn. It is the right decision. I knew it was coming. but it is so hard to take," he said. "Janet was my only love and we were together for 30 years. It will be a big relief

when she finally gets peace.
"When I see her for the last time I know what I will do. I will give her a last kiss and a long last cuddle and say 'goodbye darling. When I see Janet it is so upsetting. I just sit there and hold her hand. But it doesn't make any difference."

Mrs Johnston's brothers. John and George, her hus-band and her daughter Linda Bryce said in a statement they were "relieved that Lord Cameron has allowed this to happen". Mr Johnston praised the doctors and nurses who have cared for his wife.

Dr John Browning, medical director at Law Hospital, said that, once he had assurances that there would be no appeals, doctors would wait two or three days and then withdraw Mrs Johnston's feeding tube. Any appeal has to be lodged within 21 days. He said Mrs Johnston



in a coma for four years

would not need painkilling drugs but would be nursed intensively up to the time of her death. Robert Robertson, the hospital's director of nursing, said: The nursing staff who have cared for for Mrs Johnston 24 hours a day for the past four years support the decision taken."

There are about a hundred patients in a similar state to Mrs Johnston in Scotland and, although her case sets a precedent, the authority of the courts would be needed in each individual case before the patient is allowed to die.

Cardinal Thomas Winning, Archbishop of Glasgow, said he deeply regretted the judg-ment. Never before in Scotland has nourishment been equated with medical treatment. Nourishment, which is food, is a right of every human being and to deny food is to starve a person to death - this can never be morally right."

Yacoub defends visit by **Princess**

By Emma Wilkins

PROFESSOR Sir Magdi Yacoub yesterday defended the Princess of Wales's presence during a heart opera-tion on a seven-year-old boy. The operation on Arnaud

Wambo, sponsored by the children's charity Chain of Hope, was filmed by Sky TV at Harefield Hospital, north London, on Monday. "It is a major misrepresentation to say that it was something to do with a photocall," the professor said. "It wasn't something that

was planned. Sky television were following the child and following the charity. The Princess was supportive to that particular charity and she happened to be there." Sir Magdi, who waived his fee for the operation, denied

widespread suggestions by commentators that the Princess's presence was a distraction or a danger. "We have people who are in charge of infection control. They apply certain criteria which are quite strict." Harefield Hospital said that Arnaud had been moved

from intensive care to a normal ward.

Queen's protest at Business wealthiest woman claim is upheld

By Alexandra Frean, media correspondent

THE Press Complaints Commission has upheld the first complaint from the Queen, over a magazine article that claimed she was Britain's wealthiest woman.

In a ruling which could seriously curtail media speculation about the wealth of the Royal Family, the Commission said last night that Businessage magazine failed to check its facts, made a number of errors and presented speculation as established fact when assessing the Queen's person-al fortune at £2.2 billion in an article last September. The Queen is known to have

objected to the magazine's decision to elevate her from seventy-fourth place to first in its annual list of Britain's 500 richest people by including the value of certain royal residences, art treasures and jewellery in its calculations of her fortune. She takes the view that this property is held in trust for the nation and cannot be sold for personal gain.

A spokeswoman for Buck-ingham Palace said: The magazine presented an inac-curate and speculative overestimate of the Queen's wealth and it was wrong in many

respects." The Queen's complaint represents an increasingly tough approach by the Palace to what it perceives as inaccuracies and invasions of privacy by newspapers. Given the increasing pub-

man for the National Trust,

quite badly and I was wor-

ried that there might be an accident. I understand that

film and TV people usually

use a mixture of peat and

gravel to cover modern

roads, but this time they used

overnight, Lacock has been

"With the torrential rain

soil and limestone.

lic interest in the royal finances generally, we considered it necessary to complain. In our view it is essential that readers have properly researched information," the spokeswoman said. She said that the Queen's

personal wealth was a private matter between her and the Inland Revenue, but added that estimates which valued it "upwards of £100 million" were grossly inaccurate.

In its ruling, the commission did not give an opinion on whether BusinessAge's estimate of the Queen's wealth was correct. It concluded that the magazine should have explained the basis for increasing its valuation of the Queen's fortune from E158 million the previous year.

It said that the magazine's failure to check its facts with Buckingham Palace indicated a lack of care and that its research had not been exhaustive. Peter Kirwan, editor of

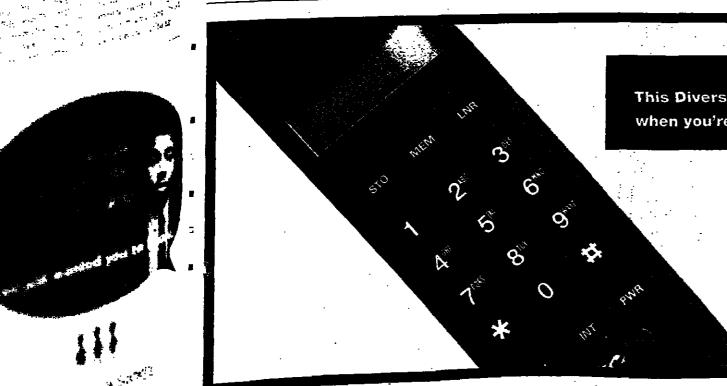


BusinessAge magazine ranked the Oueen first

BusinessAge, maintained that his magazine's valuation of the Queen's wealth was "justified and legitimate" and said that the ruling would restrict freedom of expression. "There will be an increased reticence on the part of journalists to look at all of these issues, which are very topical at the moment," he said.

Mr Kirwan criticised "archaic structures of ownership which are obscured by excessive secrecy" and said that if the Palace was not prepared to enter into a dialogue about the Queen's wealth, he would have no hesitation in publishing the same £2.2 billion valuation next time, although he said that he would include a fuller explanation of how it was arrived at.

Other members of the Royal Family have complained to the commission on three previous occasions and in each case the complaint was upheld.



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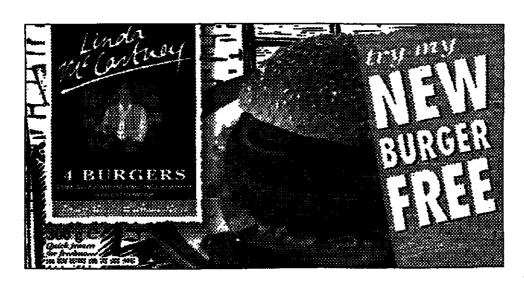
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Linda McCantury

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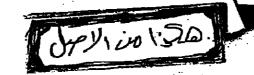


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Top state school is ignoring bullying

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American chain taps demand for all-day nurseries

AMERICA'S largest childcare company will open breakfastto-teatime nurseries in 20 British towns for children as young as six weeks after huge demand at a pilot centre in Cheshire. The Kinder Care nursery at Warrington runs from 7.30am to 6.30pm. Bookings for full or part-time places have been so buoyant since it opened almost a year ago that capacity has been increased from 75 to 100.

News of the expansion comes in the wake of criticism on Tuesday by the head of a leading independent school. Paddy Holmes, chairman of a 300-strong association of independent schools, said the nation was beginning to treat children like young animals by putting them into nursery schools too soon.

The youngest child who stays all day at the Warrington nursery is three months old. The Alabama-based company, which has 1,300 centres in 38 American states, is building its next centre in Luton, Bedfordshire, David Kedwards, its development director, plans to build on five more sites soon from a shortlist of 20, including Bristol, Reading, Swindon, Craw-ley and Bracknell. "We are



Sir Christopher Ball, left, director of learning at the Royal Society of Arts and author of Start Right, which argued for nursery educa-tion from the age of 3, said: There are strong educational grounds for putting your child into good centre-based learning at 3, 4, or 5 for balf a day. At the ages of 2 or 1 it robably does not do any harm, but it may not do any good . . . Under the age of I, am quite sure it is a mistake. I would be uneasy about a child in full-time care plus education much before the age of 6."

tailoring the American experi-ence for the UK," Mr a week off. I can understand the criticism, but the present economic climate is such that Kedwards said. "We are a genuine all-day nursery, five you cannot easily turn away days a week, 52 weeks a year." from a well-paid job."

Christine Spencer sent her son Matthew to the Warring-Sue Jones, the centre manager, said that it was popular with parents who left early to travel to Manchester. "About ton nursery from the age of three months so that she could resume her career as a man-80 per cent of our children are agement accountant. Matin before 8.30am. We are able thew, now 15 months, is taken to take 18 children under the age of one and all those places are full, with a waiting list." A before 9am for breakfast and Mrs Spencer said: "When full-time baby place costs £112 children are a bit older. I think a week. A full-time nanny can

it is harder to send them away. cost up to £250 a week. I do not think there was any Mrs Holmes, head of adverse effect. Matthew al-Ditcham Park School, Petersmost finds it boring if we have field, Hampshire, said yester-

day that she did not intend to nursery schools, which were responding to demand. It is the situation nationally and the lack of government support for working women that I was getting at," she said.

KinderCare carried out three years' research in Britain, which it regards as a huge untapped market, with the lowest level of pre-school pro-vision in Europe. "The States are ten or 15 years ahead of the game and the childcare industry is a more sophisticated beast," Mr Kedwards said.

The company came to Britain before launching develop-

ments in Singapore and Australia because its research concluded that, by 2000, 80 per cent of new British jobs would be for women and the number of one-parent families

Learning Alliance, said:
"For very young children it is probably best to be with their parents. It is possible to

provide day care for children of a good quality but it needs high staff ratios and a family-like atmosphere. In

sure the children do not

suffer at all. The real prob-lem is the shortage of good-quality care. Young children

need individual attention for

emotional development.

They can get it from people other than their parents."

would have increased. There are no nursery or playgroup places for more than half the country's threeyear-olds but Labour is promising to remedy that. The Government has pledged to introduce nursery vouchers for three-year-olds in the medium term", which could stimulate more demand for private places.

Body and Mind, page 18



Sue Jones with one of her charges: 80 per cent arrive before 8.30am for breakfast

Top state school 'is ignoring bullying'

By Paul Wilkinson

THE parents of ten children who have allegedly been bullied at a leading state school have withdrawn them and asked Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, to inter-

They say that little or nothing has been done despite a series of complaints to Harrogate Grammar School in North Yorkshire over the past two years. They also say the school has still to fulfil a nequirement to devise a formal anti-bullying policy 16 months

after being told to do so.
The school was highlighted last month by Chris Wood-head, the Chief Inspector of Schools, as one of 32 "outstandingly successful" secondaries in England and Wales. Liz Carnell withdrew her teenage son John in December 1994 after he was punched in the stomach. She said her complaints to the headmaster, Kevin McAleese, were not

dealt with adequately.

Mr McAleese denied that Mrs Carnell's complaints had been ignored and said an investigation by the local education authority had shown the school had acted properly. It was also devising an antibullying policy.

Boy of 6 is barred for rejecting ultimatum

collected after 4pm.

By Adrian Lee

A BOY aged six was excluded from school after he refused to sign a contract guarantee-

ing his good behaviour.
The parents of Andrew Eaton, of Trafford, Manchester, said it was unfair to ask a child so young to enter into such an agreement. His parents also refused to sign the agreement, which required Andrew to keep the classroom tidy, sit quietly and put his hand up before answering a question.

Karl and Heather Eaton described the contract as "an ultimatum" from Wellacre Infants School, which then excluded Andrew for persistent bad behaviour. They claim their son has a condition called Attention Deficit Disorder and should not have been expelled before an Andrew was accused of

throwing school equipment. biting a teacher, interrupting lessons and attacking other pupils. The contract, with a space to sign his name, included the words: This is a chance to behave well again. If I break that rule again I will have to work in the corridor. My mum and dad and teachers will be sad."

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kneeling chairs) your back will be held in an ideal posture - relaxed, forward leaning, and straight backed - that's perfect



Hardy's oldest film saved from a fine mess

By Paul Wilkinson

THE earliest surviving film featuring Oliver Hardy will have its first public screening for almost 80 years tomorrow, after being rescued from a bonfire in Bradford.

The siapstick short Something in her Eye was made in 1915, long before Hardy teamed up with Stan Laurel. Film buffs believed it lost years ago until David Oyston, a Laurel and Hardy fan, stopped a former projectionist from burning it.

Mr Oyston, 58, a machine operator from Wilsden, near Bradford, has since undertaken lengthy inquiries to authenticate the film, which has no credits. Experts in America and at the National Film Archive in Landon have acclaimed it as the oldest extant example of Hardy's film work.

Tomorrow, when it is shown at a film nostalgia evening at Bradford Library. the audience will include Stan Laurel's cousin Nancy Wardell, who lives in Dewsbury. West Yorkshire.

The ten-minute single reel was made when Hardy was a 23-year-old solo artist known as Babe, and considerably heavier than in his later films. It tells the story of four amorous young men who think a woman has winked at

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them, when she has dust in her eye. At first Hardy loses out when a rival drops a scorpion down his trousers. but finally he wins the lady.

A former cinema projec tionist in Bradford had decided to burn the film from his collection in 1984, because it was decomposing. Mr Oyston said: "I had a hunch that a tape with the fresh-faced Oliver Hardy was something special. I am a Laurel and Hardy fan, but I am not an expert.
"One-reelers were often

used as matinee fillers, but they soon wore out because the projectors were not very gentle with them. Techniques changed and longer films came in so after a few showings it probably would have been put on a shelf and forgotten about."

The National Film Archive has copied it on to 35mm safety film, and given him a 16mm version which he has now transferred to video tape. Old nitrate film is prone to catch fire and inks in the captions cause it to dissolve. Glenn Mitchell, who has

written extensively about Laurel and Hardy, said: "It is a very important film. Laurel and Hardy fans in America had heard of it but no one

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Oliver Hardy in action: the 1915 film was made before he won his star laurels

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Watchdog attacks ITV for emphasis on crime shows

By ALEXANDRA FREAN MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ITV was criticised yesterday for showing too many drama and factual programmes about crime and the police. The Independent Television Commission said such pro-grammes reflected a lack of originality.

In its review of the main commercial television channels in 1995, the commission complained of the "patchy" quality of "reality" shows such as Police Camera Action, based on footage from emergency-service and surveillance

Peter Rogers, the commis-sion's new chief executive, said that he was concerned about the cumulative effect of the emphasis on crime.

Five of the eight new drama series screened by the network were based on crime, including The Governor and Band of Gold, as were many one off pilot shows. There are a number of things which may seem perfectly acceptable in a single programme, but which can be a problem if they start to accumulate," he said.

Mr Rogers acknowledged that police and crime programmes were popular, but he said they militated against the commission's long-term aim of reducing levels of violence on television. One

INTERNET

READY

that the ITV series Cracker, about a criminal psychologist. was voted best drama for the second year running at the Bafta awards on Sunday. Clare Mulholland, the com-

mission's director of programmes, said there was concern about invasion of privacy in "reality" pro-grammes. The blurring of people's faces to protect their identity was not always effective. While it means that people are disguised from those who don't know them, their neighbours and members of their families might recognise them," she said.

The commission also criticised a move away from factual programmes. Educapitfall, he said, was exposed last November by Police Action Live!, a two-hour slot that tion, religious and arts pro-gramming was often tucked away in the margins. ITV's followed Saturday night police entertainment-led output on activity in a number of areas. Saturday evenings was criti-The expected activity and excitement had failed to materialise. Mr Rogers said. "Programmes involving foot-

Channel 4 was praised for retaining a "distinctive character" and for its news and factual output, but was criticised for an increase in repeats and a lack of original material. Sir Michael Bishop, chairman of Channel 4, blamed the statutory funding formula, which requires the station to give a proportion of its profits



age of emergency services can be cheap but with this pro-

gramme everyone was wait-

ing around for something to

happen and it never did: all

the drunks staved at home and

watched the programme."

Leslie Hill, chairman of

ITV. said that the network's

strong crime and police con-

tent reflected "the enduring popularity of these subjects

The Independent Television Commission gave this assessment of the commercial terrestrial television services. Anglia: Significant number of co-productions with Meridian

resulted in loss of regional identity. The quality of day-time talk show Vanessa diminished by emphasis on sex-Border: Good range of re-

gional programmes. Carlton: High-quality regional programming, although few innovations. The Good Sex Guide denied classification as an educational

programme. Central: Supply to the ITV network increased with successful programmes such as Takers. Children's

shows commended. Channel: Weekly programmes for French and to provide a distinctive service. Grampian: Live coverage of regional football a welcome initiative. Significant improvement in network contributions. Granada: The single largest supplier to network, with high-quality contributions including Band of Gold. The ITC concerned about the decision to move This Morning from Liverpool to London. HTV: Weaknesses in regional

programmes for HTV West. Few innovative programme formats and ideas. London Weekend Television: Programmes supplied to the network, such as Blind Date, were high quality but too few new formats and ideas. Meridian: Coverage of regional arts events less exten-

sive than promised. Disappointing number contributions to network. Scottish: Small shortfall in amount of Gaelic program-

ming. Contributions to network, such as Taggart, limited in number but of high quality. Tyne Tees: Co-productions lacked regional identity. New regional entertainment programme, The Richard Whiteley Show, dogged by technical flaws and considered unsatisfactory by viewers. UTV: Audiences for regional news increased in the first full year of ceasefire. Innovations: in regional programmes

welcomed. Westcountry: increase in tegional co-productions diluted regionality. However, regional programming praised, particularly In Our Backgord.

Yorkshire Contributions to network of mixed quality. Regional identity diluted by too many co-productions.

GMTV: Standards of news 1995. Children's programmes better but an over-reliance on material. Continued public complaints about violence in Power Rangers, which was dropped from weekdays. Channel 4: Channel 4: News produced by ITN, was come mended. Proportion of ori nally commissioned materi declined from 54 to 50 per cer and number of repeats. creased, from 40 to 42 per cers of output. Apologies made 4 the Cabinet minister Willi Waldegrave for a verbal tack on his wife and childre and to Emma Nicholson invasion of privacy at home by the Lestina **Avengers**

Teletext: Regional news vice enhanced. An important gap in the core service filled during year when details of international flight arrivals



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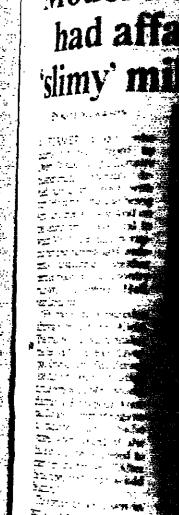
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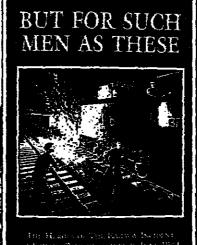
WEATHER CLOTHING

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Herbert Clarke helped to prevent a train-load of bombs destroying a Cambridgeshire village in 1944. Although the act was marked by a book, it was not until this week that his son, Arthur, saw his father's heroism recognised officially

Railman who saved village from wartime disaster is honoured

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE bravery of a wartime railway guard who prevented a trainload of bombs exploding has finally been recognised.

Herbert Clarke, then 59, was on a train which caught fire while transporting 44 500lb high explo-sive bombs four days before D-Day in lune 1044 A conditional Day in June 1944. A spark ignited the first wagon behind the steam-

roached the station at Soham, Cambridgeshire.

Knowing it could explode at any moment, Mr Clarke and the train's fireman, Jim Nightall, 22, spent three minutes unscrewing the hot coupling so that the burning wagon, which contained two bombs packed in straw in wooden crates, could be separated from the rest of the train. The engine driver, Ben Gimbert, then tried to use his steam locomotive to pull the wagon into a siding away from the village, but within seconds the bombs detonated and blew up a gas storage tank. The blast destroyed the station, dam-aged 600 homes and killed Mr Nightall and a signalman, Frank

Mr Clarke, who was blown onto an embankment by the blast, and Mr Gimbert, who suffered serious shrapnel wounds, survived. As soon as he recovered consciousness, Mr Clarke rushed to put signal detonators on the line to warn an approaching mail train that the wagons containing unexploded bombs were on the track ahead. Mr Gimbert was later awarded the George Cross and Mr Nightall was given the honour posthumously.

named Frank Bridges Close in honour of the signalman, but Mr Clarke, of Ipswich, Suffolk, never received any commendation, even though his injuries left him in a wheelchair for much of his life.

A sense of injustice led his son. Arthur Clarke, to pursue a 34-year campaign to have his father's heroism officially recognised. His efforts finally succeeded this week when, after three decades of writing to British Rail, local councils and the Government, a Stowmarket, Suffolk, said vester new communal garden close to Ipswich's first railway station was named H.G. Clarke Gardens by the borough council. A plaque donated by BR was unveiled by the Mayor of Ipswich.

The honour came 20 years after Mr Clarke's death at the age of 90 in 1976. His son, aged 75, from

day: "My father saved dozens of lives but he was completely bypassed in the honours. I was determined to get him recogni-tion. It is better late than never." Arthur Clarke's former neighbour, Bernard Dye, 72, who by chance witnessed the blast as he flew overhead in a Lancaster bomber, said: "All-the train crew showed remarkable bravery."

Model denies she had affair with 'slimy' millionaire

A FORMER model who claims she was raped by Owen Oyston, a millionaire businessman, yesterday denied having an affair with him. "He came across as being slimy and creepy," she said on the second day of the trial in which Mr Oyston denies raping her and raping and indecently assaulting another teenage model at his country mansion, Claughton Hall, near Lancaster.

"He smells of Obsession aftershave by Calvin Klein. The smell now always makes me feel sick," she told Liverpool Crown Court. She denied she had ever been on affectionate terms with Mr Oyston. chairman of Blackpool Football Club and owner of regional magazines and radio stations. When asked if she marry him, she replied: "After he had raped me? That would be absurd."

The woman broke down in tears as Anthony Scrivener, QC, for the defence, questioned her. She sobbed: "They have had private investigators asking my friends when I was ten years old if I was a virgin. They have gone through my personal life with private investigators and reporters turning up ... tearing my whole life apart."

Mr Scrivener said: "Mr Oyston's case is that you were never raped and you had an affair with him that was well known for quite a long period of time." The woman was asked to try to remember exactly when the alleged rape took place, but said she could

WINDPROOF

BREATHABLE



Oyston: former model hated his aftershave

remember only that it was in 1988. Mr Scrivener asked her if she could remember which day of the week, which month or which season the alleged answered "No".

He asked about the differing ages and dates of birth she had given in statements at previous hearings. She told him: "I have always lied about my age. If you ask 100 people, 90 would say women lie about their age. In the modelling business certain clients ask for a certain age so the girls will

Questioned further by Mr Scrivener about the accuracy of times and dates, she said: Talk about who is on trial." Mr Justice McCullough told her: "You have insisted that man in the dock raped you in his house when you were 17.

Counsel is exploring where you were and what work you The trial continues.

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MANPOWER You can measure the difference the Lib Dems have under lock and key

THE Liberal Democrats rule the Harrogate and Knaresborough district council, have held power since 1990; were they to lose every one of the seats up for election next Thursday (they will not) they would retain overall control. Eat your heart out John

Harrogate itself is a jewel of a town with enough parks and greenery to permit crossing from one side to the other without setting foot on Tarmacadam. There is the National Rhubarb Collection at Harlow Carr Gardens (the second "r" in Carr was added to deter folk in search of second-hand Cortinas). The Royal Baths, the thriving conference centre, more antique shops than you can shake a Georgian salver at. Betty's tea rooms - famous for hot cinnamon toast - and the Drum and Monkey restaurant renowned for the freshness of its fish, the allure of its asparagus hollandaise sauce and the fact that it is so permanently booked that you have to put children down for a table at birth.

In 1991 Robert Banks, local MP since 1974, narrowly avoided deselection; in 1995 he did not. The former Chancelfor and Euro-sceptic Norman Lamont will stand for the

FREUD'S ELECTION RIDE

diminished in size by the loss of surrounding, largely Tory, rural areas. It will be a tough

The Yorkshire grandees wanted a high-profile representative. They have one. (In

The elders of the kirk would approve of Lamont's Euroviews for they neither trust nor have affection for people ineligible to play cricket for York-shire: though the ex-Cabinet minister's Spitting Image per-sona might be difficult to tives who will come out of the woodwork now they have a new candidate.

Lamont has promised to live in Harrogate if elected and his wife's family are from Weatherby - a fact I never heard mentioned when he represented Kingston-upon-Thames. He now goes North every week and there have been sightings of the man on local doorsteps.
I asked him how he was

received. "People are a) pleased and

b) surprised." What are the issues?

"New development is doing nothing to preserve the local character. Conservatives would give value for council tax. Lib Dems have introduced a draconian parking scheme, which my party would liberalise."

Councillor Andy Wright represents 50 per cent of the Labour presence on council. He canvasses nightly, says that the Blair factor is greatly helpful. Labour rejects the concentration of resources to the centre of Harrogate and we are keen on playgrounds and traffic calming and creat-ing equality between the people who pay council tax and conference visitors on whom the money is spent". At Ashdown House in the

parade beside the railway vative councillors other than on sale of housing stock. They station the Lib Dems have their headquarters. They are ould like elaboration on how led by the charismatic Phil the Tories would achieve tax Willis — council chairman cuts and retain services.

and prospective parliamenta-

They think they have got it about right, else they would

not remain in power; they would like to be able to raise

more money, build an exhibi-

tion centre to go with the

conference centre and compete

are in no conflict with Conser-

with Birmingham's NEC but

ry candidate.

Betty's Tea Room was full. I queued for a table, engaged people in the queue in local election talk. None were voters; 80 per cent were foreign visitors. I had hot chocolate and a Fat Rascal, a large nicely spiced currant bun with lots of butter served by a woman dressed in black skirt and white blouse. In his day

Alan Bennett would have paid one shilling and ninepence. My bill was E4.35. Walking to lunch, I see that

signs of the recession remain: well-located shops are to let, houses for sale. The Drum and Monkey has

been full since noon; you can get a brilliant three-course meal for about £12. "If you're not competitive you're dead," says the owner. I get a table, eat oysters (it is my birthday), chat to neighbours.

Harrogate is not the place it

was; has lost its genteel image. ceased to be a safe Conservative seat Lamont is there because it's far enough from Westminster to keep him out of John Major's hair and if he raises his profile and does not soften his anti-Europe stance.

he might get in. The consensus is that the town is now made up solidly of caterers for the conference centre. Just as the theatre struggles because off-duty waiters and chefs don't go there, so is it unlikely that

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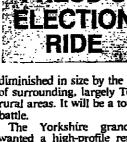
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Harrogate, where the tea rooms and antique shops are thriving but the Tories are struggling, with no hope of winning control of the council these folk will vote, especially not in local elections. The Drum and Monkey says it is anti-Europe as are all fish restaurants, and they are not that keen on the parking scheme whereby farmers have to spend E4 for a day's parking in town...

And local farmers are having a bad time, can't afford

"Good heavens not they re rolling in it."

☐ Saturday: Clement Frend in Stratford-upon-Avon



battle.

fairness it would be hard to present a lower profile than that of Mr Banks. who lives in Suffolk, is considered less than overly bright though scrupulous in turning up for public functions, Remembrance Day parades and pleasing the party whips.)

overcome. The imponderable

HARROGATE FACTFILE

Until this year there were 60 seats on Harrogate council, with 20 being contested at each election. The seats in next week's election were last contested in 1992, when the Tories won 11, the Lib Dems eight and independents one. After by-elections and the transfer of one seat to York, the Lib Dems and Tories are each defending eight and the independents three.

Present council: Lib Dem 41; Conservative 12: Labour 2;

The council was Tory-controlled until 1991, when it became hung. The Lib Dems took control within a year after a series of by-election victories and have been increasing their strength ever since. Last year they took four seats from the Tories.

The Tories hold both parliamentary seats with substantial majorities. Phil Willis, the council's Liberal Democrat leader since 1992, will stand against Norman Lamont at the general election.

Ashdown issues tax truth challenge

By ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

"truth and trust" challenge over tax last night to both the Government and Labour.

The Liberal Democrat leadis party will use next month's local elections to fight all "misleading tax promises".

In a speech at Twickenham, he accused the two parties of treating the public with contempt and shattering trust in politics and politicians. He said: "The country cannot have a serious debate about its future, if it cannot have a serious debate about how to pay for things." Labour was ened rabbits in the headlight The Liberal Democrats are

PADDY ASHDOWN issued a accused of acting like frightof Tory spending attacks.

also focusing on health during Yesterday th the cumpaign. produced a survey showing that half of family doctors want to leave medicine for careers or retirement.

Almost half the GPs surveyed were "not very satisfied" or "not at all satisfied" with the job. More than 80 per cent said that they were being asked to meet unrealistic targets.

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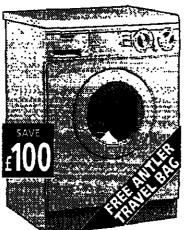
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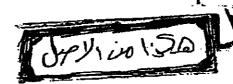




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THE TIME STATE SCOON APRIL

CHIEF POLITICAL

ALAN HOWARTH, the MP who defected from the Tory party in October, was last night given the go-ahead by Labour's ruling body to seek a seat at the next election. Under present Labour

rules, parliamentary candidates must have been party members for at least two years before standing for local selection. But yesterday the National Executive Committee agreed to waive the rule for Mr Howarth, MP for Stratford-on-Avon.

The decision followed speculation about whether the Labour leadership would impose Mr Howarth as a last-minute candidate in a vacant seat just before the efection.

Yesterday the NEC announced that, after taking legal advice, it had decided to make an exception for Mr Howarth because of his right and principled stand in switching from the Tories. The decision will encourage other Tories who may

have considered defecting but were put off by the two-Mr Howarth will be able to apply for any of the 15 to 20

winnable seats in the Midlands and northern England



Alan Howarth after being welcomed to the Labour Party by Tony Blair last year

still to choose a candidate. He said: 'The NEC's deci-sion reinforces the welcome that I have received since joining the party. I recognise it is for local Labour parties to select their Parliamentary candidates. I simply hope that there may be a constituency Labour party that will be willing to consider me."

After a heated debate the

NEC also decided by a narrow margin not to hold a fresh ballot to choose the parliamentary candidate for Swindon North.

Last September Michael Wills, a former aide to Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, defeated Jim D'Avila, a union official, by 114 votes to 84. But Mr

FRIDGE FREEZERS

secure a fresh ballot amid claims of vote-tampering. A Labour party report found that the procedure had been "fundamentally flawed".

Last month a High Court judge upheld the party's right to impose a candidate. The NEC voted by 14 to 12 yesterday to appoint a special panel to interview the shortlisted candidates again.

Tory MPs demand moral basis for divorce law

TORY backbenchers led the attack on the Government's divorce reforms yesterday. claiming that they would cause a big increase in marital breakdowns.

Edward Leigh, a former Frade Minister, urged the Government to scrap plans to introduce no-fault divorces after one year. He admitted that Parliament could not stop the disintegration of marriages but said it could lay down

the "moral cornerstone". He said the Lord Chancellor's Bill gave divorce on demand and people would be able to prove irretrievable breakdown of marriage just by saying, "I divorce you".

The concept of fault should be retained not because we want to say 'you are guilty, you should admit it and build up bitterness in a marriage. But it serves a purpose sometimes to say: 'I'm sorry, I was wrong'. We all know if you try to solve problems on the basis of no pain, no shame, no apology, perhaps it will make it even more difficult to start again and rebuild a relation-

ship."
Although the main purpose of the Bill was to try to get rid of acrimony in divorce pro-ceedings, as presently drafted it would not achieve that aim. "If you bring in no-fault

divorce, what about the bitterness of the injured party?" He also gave a warning of

FRIDGES AND FREEZERS

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the "catastrophic effects" of

divorce on children. "Our law in this area for the best part of 2,000 years has been based on our Judaeo-Christian inheritance. Do we this afternoon wish to sweep that all away?"

Dame Angela Rumbold, a vice-chairman of the Tory party, said the Bill should concentrate on making the marriage contract more solid, not less. "Is the message we really want to give to the nation that marriage vows

mean nothing?"
Sir Michael Neubert, a former Tory minister, said: The removal of fault is equal to saying there is no contract, therefore there can be no breach of contract."

Elizabeth Peacock, Tory MP for Batley and Spen, said: 'What's being proposed is that a couple gets married on a Saturday and if on the same day

Leigh: concept of fault

finance agreement than to the marriage, and it's nonsense."
But Patrick Nicholls, Tory MP for Teignbridge and a former divorce lawyer, disagreed. "One thing I learnt fairly quickly was that the pit of misery and unhappiness

they take out a finance agree-

ment for 24 months, they have

a firmer commitment to that

which two people locked in deadlock in matrimony can cause each other is absolutely bottomless," he said. He said he understood why Mr Leigh wanted to reintroduce the fault concept. But he had seen how fault was used.

as if out of a hat, a fault."

"In practice, if you have to produce a fault, you will pull, Timothy Devlin, Tory MP for Stockton South, who has divorced and remarried, told Mr Leigh his argument was

their beliefs on the public. John Patten, the former Education Secretary, said the number of divorces would equal the total of marriages in 2020 if the Bill went through. Michael Alison, Tory MP for Selby and a Church Commissioner, said: "It is a eunuch of a Bill in relation to fault. All we ask is that the reality of

fault is specified, put up front

based on a fundamental fallacy. "Currently, the actual round for divorce is irretriev-

able breakdown of the

mrriage, which is merely proved in five different ways,

including fault. So at the

moment, we already have no-

fault divorce," he said. Sir Edward Heath, Father

of the House, rejected Mr

Leigh's demand for a restora-

tion of fault in divorce pro-

ceedings, "It breeds perpetual

discontent and affects the children in particular." He

added that religious MPs

should be wary of imposing



... so that reconciliation can get to work and be effective."

Nicholls: need to blame

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Crusading spirit porters regard the next election as primarily an opportunity to end the long Tory era rather than Peter Hennessy, a contempo

as the start of the New Jerusalem. Expectations are low, and have been deliberately lowered by Tony Blair to avoid later disappointment and charges of betrayal. There is no sense of a crusade. The contrast with the

mood before the Labour victories of 1945 and 1964 is essays by a group of Labour sympathisers, academics and industrialists entitled What Needs to Change, edited by the Labour MP Giles Radice. It complements the recent insider analysis, The Blair Revolution, by Peter Mandelson and Roger Liddle, and Options for Britain, a series of essays on policy options pro-duced after a Nuffield College conference last year.

The new book reflects the realist/pragmatic strand in centre-left thinking on everything from the new working (Charles environment Handy), via competitiveness (David Sainsbury) to crime and punishment (Stephen Turnim) with level-headed views on health, education and Europe. The emphasis is mainly on lessening the social divisions produced by the Thatcher-Major years rather than big leaps forward. The authors believe that the State can have a beneficial role, but in a more limited way than before the 1980s.

Lord Young of Dartington, the author of Labour's 1945 manifesto, argues that the party's victory then was built on three coalitions — the first of ideas between the workingclass socialist tradition and Liberals like Keynes and Beveridge: the second between radicalims and patriotism: and the third between intellectuals, thinkers and planners on the one hand, and practical politicians on the other. He believes a coalition of ideas is to some extent in place now. but argues that the Left has not come to terms with the radical policies needed to provide more jobs and greater security. I am less sure that there is wide support for big shifts in policy as opposed to to a change of party in office.

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rary historian and enthusiast for the Attlee era, notes that "both 1945 and 1964 were moments enthused with genuine hope, hope that welldesigned schemes drawn up by sensible politicians, officials and intellectuals would be the beneficial escalator to necessary change, higher producice". But, in contrast to these

periods, "we are now locked into the politics of pessimism". Government has lost much of its authority. Yet, as Professor Hennessy argues, Mr Blair has "the priceless advantage that expectations are so low". So even making things a little better would be welcome. The main exception to new Labour's caution is its wide-

ranging proposals on constitutional change. These both unite a wide range of opinion on the Centre-Left and divide the opposition parties from the Government. The practial difficulties raised by both the broader reform agenda and House of Lords reform in particular are discussed in the first two reports this morning from the Constitution Unit, a research project staffed by former civil servants. The reports provide the fullest discussion so far of the political and parliamentary issues raised by these reforms. They show both what changes may be needed to parliamentary procedrures and how reform of the Lords goes much further than excluding hereditary peers. Anyone who believes reform will be simple and quick should read the reports and think again.

These changes could affect the whole legislative programme of a Blair government. As Professor Hennessy writes in relation to the broadprospects for Labour, "cannot risk the Centre-Left being tainted once more (and perhaps permanently) by the stain of drift and incompetence".

(HarperCollins; £14.99). The two Constitution Unit reports are £10 each from 4 Tavistock Place, London WCIH 9RA.

PETER RIDDELL



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Cleaner Thames lures elusive otter towards London

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

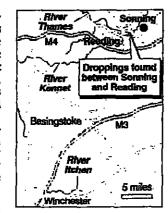
AN OTTER has been exploring the Thames just 40 miles upstream from London for the first time in three decades. The finding confirms a dramatic improvement in water quality. raising hopes that the animals could be back in the capital during the next century.

The otter spotted near Reading is thought to have been a male marking out territory for possible recolonisation, after travelling in from Hampshire or Warwickshire.

The animals disappeared from vast areas of the country with the onset of chemical pollution in the early 1960s and are classified as an endangered species. Britain is now believed to be the only nation in western Europe where the otter population is increasing.

Mark Satinet, an otter project officer with the Gov-ernment's Environment Agency, found otter droppings, or spraints, on the river bank near Reading, after a member of the public reported that an otter had been seen in the river. More spraints have been found over the past two weeks between Reading and Sonning. The findings are some 30 miles further downstream than previous sightings on tributaries in the

Alistair Driver, conserva-



tion manager for the agency's Thames Region, said yester-day that the discovery was "great news - it shows that water quality is good, that the right kind of habitat exists and that there is plenty of food available for otters".

Mr Driver said they believed the otter, Lutra lutra, was probably a male in search of new territory. He believed it was probably feeding on coarse fish such as roach and bream, but also amphibians such as frogs and toads. Otters can also eat eggs and fledglings.

Dr Don Jeffries, a former member of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, has been carrying out a nationwide survey of otters on behalf of the Vincent Wildlife Trust.

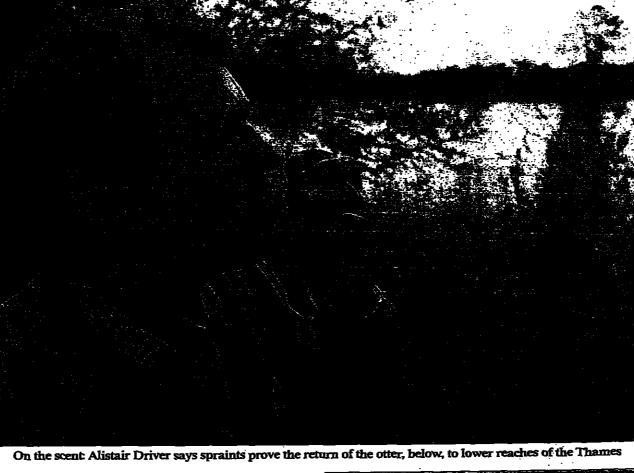
He said the finding increased hope that otters would be frolicking in the river at Westminster by the early 21st century: They were in the Thames in central London in the 1800s. One was even killed in St John's Wood." Populations of otters

crashed all around England in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Numbers were reduced by otter hunts with dogs, but scientists and wildlife experts believe that the introduction of pesticides such as DDT and dieldrin poisoned them. These chemicals are banned and. despite being highly persis-tent residual amounts found in fish and rivers are returning to levels low enough for otters to survive.

The Vincent Wildlife Trust survey, which will be pub-lished in May, indicates that 7,500 otters are alive in Britain, with the main concentrations in Scotland, the Shetlands and Wales.

North American mink, escaped from fur farms, have been linked with the animal's decline, but the survey indicates that, as water quality improves, otters push out mink from sites.

Dr Jeffries said that otters had begun recolonising areas such as Suffolk, the west country and Hampshire in



recent years. The Thames and it lower reaches have remained a lofty ambition for conservationists.

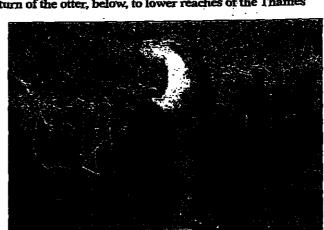
Experts suspect that the Reading otter might have entered the Thames via the rivers Kennet, Pang and Enborne from a population in the River Itchen in Hamp-shire. It might also have made its way from the Avon at

The nocturnal animals are rarely seen by humans. They can travel up to ten miles cross-country to move from one river catchment area to

another. They can travel over 400 yards under water at more than 7mph.

Dr Jeffries said there may be more than one otter near Reading. Males tend to leave extensive marks such as those found only to stake out territory when there are rivals in the area. He said the lessons on re-introductions, habitat management and conservation learnt in Britain might prove invaluable to countries such as the Netherlands, Germany and France.

Leading article ...



mmemorates the animal. Richard Frere, who visited Maxwell regularly and who wrote the biography Maxwell's Ghost, said: "I think he particularly liked Eilean Ban because it was a small, heath-

Ban, where an inscribed stone

"It was completely without grass and reminded him of his childhood home at Elrig in the Borders. He was trying to encourage eiders on the island and had plans to open it as a small wildlife sanctuary, but then he became ill and the plans were shelved. When he died I had to sell the cottage and the land to pay

some of the debts."

ery island and very wild.

Teacher fined for lab blast

Buye Feverish capture of a Fir

A science teacher was fined £1.100 for an experiment that injured two pupils. Peter Beagan, 50, poured water into a jar, not realising there was a chemical residue inside, and it exploded. Two pupils aged 15 at Rhyl High School, Colwyn. were treated for burns, Prestatyn magistrates were told. Beagan, of Gronant, has been suspended since the incident in May. He admitted failing to follow guidelines and exposing pupils to risk.

Viscount's injury

Viscount Weymouth, 21, who was injured in the collapse of a hostel in Delhi that killed his girlfriend, best friend and 15 other people, is being detained in hospital with injuries to the vertebrae in his neck. His family had hoped that he might fly home soon.

Team spirit

Manchester United is to sell an "own label" whisky, featur-ing its Red Devil coat of arms, in bars at Old Trafford. Alcohol watchdogs fear that the brand, which will also be available at supermarkets and off-licences, could encourage under-age drinking.

Two charged

Two men were charged with the murder of Kathleen Hempsall, 40, a midwife found stabbed to death in her home in Lincoln 19 months ago. Perry Calvert, 20, and Alan Boulter, 20, both from the Lincoln area, will appear before magistrates on June 3.

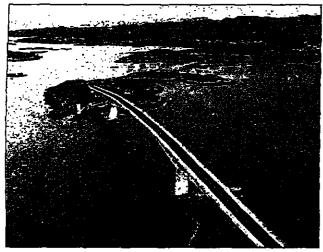
DIY death

A man was killed by an electric shock as he tried to fix his washing machine. Julie Goulding, 30, said her hus-band Mark, 32, had refused to call in professionals when the machine broke down in their Bristol home, flooding the floor with water.

Under a cloud

Firemen were called to a fire station when burnt toast set off the alarm bells. A toaster caused clouds of smoke after crews left Cardiff central fire station on an emergency. Office staff were evacuated until a crew from nearby Roath unplugged the toaster.

Born Free bid revives dream of wildlife haven on author's isle



Eilean Ban, now bisected by the Skye Bridge

BY GULIAN BOWDITCH

THE last island home of Gavin Maxwell, author of Ring of Bright Water, was hastily withdrawn from sale yesterday after the Born Free Foundation came up with a proposal to turn it into an otter sanctuary. Eilean Ban, the "White

Island" that Maxwell intended to turn into a wildlife haven, was due to be auctioned in Glasgow yesterday by the Scottish Office, which had placed a reserve price of £40.000 on it. But ministers withdrew it at

the last minute after the Born Free Foundation, which was established by the husband



and wife team of Bill Travers and Virginia McKenna, stars of the film Ring of Bright Water, submitted details of its conservation plans.

Ring of Bright Water tells

how Gavin Maxwell acquired a pet otter, gave up his job in London and moved to a remote cottage in the Western bridge cuts in half the 21/2hectare island. Lorries and Yesterday William Travers, coaches thunder past the cot-

the son of the founders and now a director of the foundation, said: "An otter sanctuary is one option we are looking at. It would be nice if we could fulfil some of the plans which Gavin Maxwell had for the island before his death. We want to look at the island in the holistic sense and from a historical perspective."

The tiny island between Kyle of Lochalsh and the Isle of Skye would hardly be recognised by Maxwell today. It had remained unchanged for centuries until the Scottish Office bought it as a prop for the Skye Bridge. Now the

his otters. Protesters opposed to the tolls on the Skye Bridge occupied the island this week and had planned to disrupt the sale. Mr Travers said he would ask environmental consul-

tage where Maxwell watched

tants to report on whether the foundation's plans for the island were feasible, given the presence of the bridge. Eilean Ban was home to

Maxwell for 18 months before his death from cancer in 1969. His white-washed slateroofed cottage still stands but has been allowed to fall into disrepair. Teko, Maxwell's

> Once again, The British Academy of Film and Television Arts has beneared an annivalled array of BSC programme-makers, performers and contributors with its annual awards. Congratulations to them all.

SINGLE DRAMA Fiona Finlay Roger Michel Nick Dear

ACTRESS JENNIFER EHLE

PACTUAL SERIES THE DEATH OF YUGOSLAVIA

LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT THE MIRS MERTON SHOW Peter Kessler

LEW GRADE AWARD FOR A

RICHARD DIMBLEBY AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION ON SCREEN IN FACTUAL TELEVISION

TALK SHOW PANORAMA INTERVIEW WITH HEN THE CESS OF WALES

PRODUCTION DESIGN BRIAN SYKES Persuasion

COSTUME DESIGN. ALEXANDRA BYRNE Persuasion

PHOTOGRAPHY/LIGHTING JOHN DALY

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> GRAPHIC DESIGN: -----JANE WYATT IAIN CREENWAY Christmas Animations

ORIGINAL TV MUSIC JEREMY SAMS Persuasion









We are staying in Europe, but what kind of Europe?'

Excerpts from the Prime Minister's speech to the Institute of Directors yesterday

FOR the last 30 years Europe has been the great explosive issue of British politics. Our membership of the EC was confirmed in a referendum in 1975. Today there are still some that question that membership in each political party. and in the press.

F ETHEN THE MEDAL ADD

I understand the concerns and frustrations that lead to that questioning. For years past some have portrayed Europe in only the most negative terms. Every frustration is played up, often inaccurately. Every benefit denied at worst or ignored at best.

But I also see clearly the hard-headed benefits that Britain has gained. And as Prime Minister, I believe it does the country no service to suggest that the only choice we face is either to go along with every demand our partners make, or head for the exit. That is naive and damaging and just plain wrong.

We are in Europe, and we all know we are staying in Europe. Anyone who seriously thinks of leaving

6 What

would be

the effect on

exporting

companies

if we left? 9

should explain what that would mean. What would be the impact on inward investment, which accounts for three quarters of a million jobs in mamıfacturing alone? Would the Nis-

sans and the Toyotas and the Samsungs still come here? What would be the effect on the City and our great exporting companies if we left?

How would we feel as the EU grew to span the whole continent? Would we be taken more seriously or less in the wider world? Some suggest we could just

negotiate a trading relationship with Europe. But frankly the idea that if we were outside the EU we could somehow become a trading haven on the edge of Europe with all the benefits of that vital market of 370 million — while others fix the rules without any regard at all to our national selfinterest - is Cloud-cuckoo-

This country is an international trading nation, it is not a little England and must never become so. So the first point is, we are staying in Europe. The second is: what sort of Europe?

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Some politicians in Europe do have a political agenda of ever greater integration, to subsume nation states into common institutions, in order to prevent the re-emergence of

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old national ambitions and rivalries. They believe in that integration as passionately as we oppose it.

I understand and respect these views. They reflect the long experience of wars and conflicts across the Continent. But I do not believe they are the right way to develop European co-operation. The nation state lends security. comfort, and familiarity, and people need that more than ever at a time of change and insecurity.

specific measures.

the tough decisions necessary

to win in tomorrow's world.

unpopularity to win long-term

If we ignore those realities, we would increase rather than reduce conflicts and tensions across Europe. We would set at risk all that Europe has achieved. So we are not going down the centralising route.

But I do not seek confrontation. Nor do I expect it. In negotiation, the EU can be tough but, in the end, it must respect and accept the vital interests of all its members. My personal view is clear.

Although there are many things in Europe we would

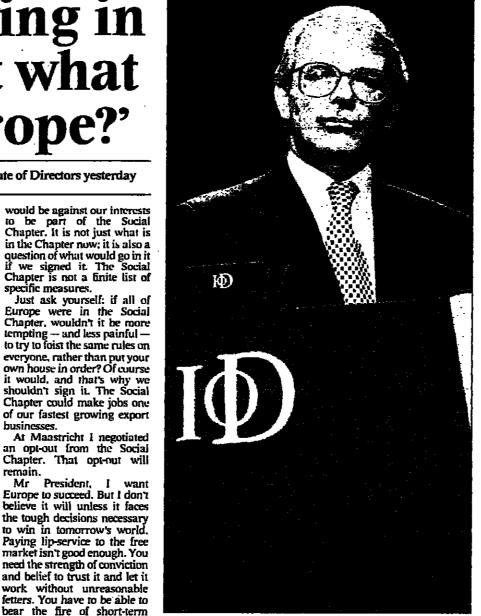
like to change, there is a lot that helps us. Not every decision is exactly what we would have liked: but neither is every decision comfortable for every other country. We aim to build a Europe that is more in our im-

age. If we win the arguments to build a Europe of nation states, all of Europe will benefit. Equally, if others choose to go in a direction that we reject, they need to recognise that we will stand our ground and will not We have nothing to gain if

the market on our doorstep goes into decline. And if it does not put competitiveness at the top of its agenda, it will decline. That's why I regret so much that Europe has not yet completed the single market. Europe as a whole is never

going to compete and win in the world if it cannot even bear competition in its home market. So Europe must proceed to complete the single market as soon as possible. The difference between our

employment costs and Europe's is stark. For every £100 he pays in wages a British employer has to add £18 in non-wage costs. Quite enough.



John Major delivering his speech on Europe at the Institute of Directors in London yesterday

Bundesbank lectures EU single-currency laggards

FROM ROGER BOVES IN BONN

spending in 1995, but only

three countries - Denmark.

of more than £20 billion and

was trying yesterday to win

the acceptance of trade unions

for some of his more drastic

Only Germany, France,

Britain and Luxembourg met

the gross public debt criterion

at a maximum of 60 per cent

of gross domestic product

The Bundesbank was at its

most schoolmasterly on this

issue. "Rather than putting in

periodic efforts, it is essential

that convincing and credible

concepts be worked out to

ensure permanent savings," it

the current 15 per cent fluctua-tion margins for currencies in

the European exchange rate

mechanism should not be

used to gauge whether a

country was ready to join

European monetary union.

"The currently applicable

The Bundesbank also said

proposals.

per cent deficit criterion."

EUROPEAN Union countries last year slipped further away from the Maastricht single-currency targets. ac-cording to the German Bundesbank.

100 150 LAN

"In order for convergence criteria to be met in 1998, it is imperative that the groundwork be appropriately laid," Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundes-bank president, wrote in a preface to the annual report, published yesterday.

The Bundesbank will be the single most important German voice in determining whether European states have met the convergence criteria on the basis of 1997 performance. The report showed that it is taking seriously its role as umpire.

Britain, measured by the Bundesbank's 1995 figures, did not meet two of the four Maastricht criteria. The inflation rate of 3.5 per cent (or 3 per cent at the partly harmonised consumer price index) was above the 2.7 per cent target. Public indebtedness as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) was improving but, at 5.1 per cent, was still above the Maastricht target of 3 per cent. However, the yield on long-term public bonds in Britain was well within the Maastricht ceiling, and so too was gross public

debt as a percentage of GDP. The Bundesbank concentrated on prodding European states that are keen to sign up for monetary union but are still lagging behind. Six countries, including Britain, fluctuation margin of plus or missed the inflation target but minus 15 per cent cannot by any means be taken as a the bank notes that everybody measuring stick." it said. The had made "notable progress". It says: "Far less satisfac report reminded aspirant tory was the progress towards consolidating public finances. Most member states made members of the monetary union that they must first be members of the ERM and some impact on their budget have maintained "normal fluctuation margins" for at

least two years.

The report comes amid a Ireland and Luxembourg succeeded in bringing their fierce internal German debate state indebtedness below the 3 about the future of monetary union. Herr Kohl insists that The main thrust of the the convergence criteria and the start-up date for monetary report was to urge Germany to cut radically its public union must be strictly adspending. Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, is aiming for cuts

However, most bankers and economic experts claim that there will have to be a choice between diluting the criteria or delaying the startup date.

The debate was fuelled yesterday by Professor Ernst-Moritz Lipp, a director of the Dresdner Bank, who said he was convinced that neither Germany nor France would be able to meet the deficit criterion in 1997. He was sure, however, that monetary union would go ahead on schedule in both countries.

"If |they| do not fuifil the deficit criterion, then there will certainly be a discussion as to whether 3.5 per cent or 3.8 per cent is sufficient to meet the entry criteria." He said that Germany and France would not allow monetary union to fail because of a marginal divergence from one of the Maastricht targets.

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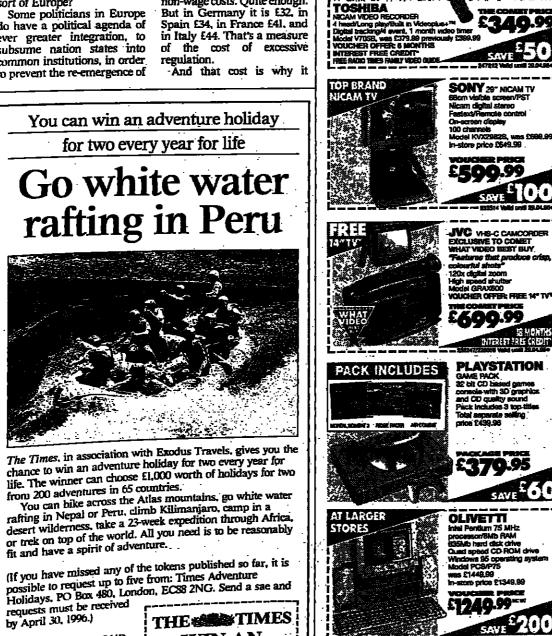


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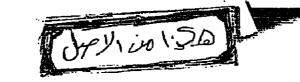
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weapons systems

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE cream of Russia's defence engineers continue to devise advanced weapons concepts, but with little chance of ever getting the new designs into production, ac-cording to the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

The "allegedly new designs", introduced since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, were almost always modifications of existing

In its annual survey of security-related events around the world, the London-based institute said the rapid decline of the former Soviet military-industrial system appeared to have passed "the point of technical collapse".

"With only a handful of exceptions, the broad capabilities that sustained the Soviet Union throughout the Cold War have virtually disappeared ... what remains is a huge industrial potential to mass-produce weapons of 1970s and early 1980s vintage," the IISS survey said.

Russian engineering teams retain the ability to promote highly advanced weapons concepts and, in some cases, they can delineate innovative designs, but the ability actually to produce sophisticated new weaponry has all but disappeared".

The IISS survey said: "Development is proceeding on a completely new tank and on other systems, including a Stealth lighter, but there is no evidence of the industrial wherewithal to take such plans beyond the prototype

With its entire defence budget for 1996 planned at 80,000 billion roubles (£11.13 billion). there were minimal funds for production. Only about 20.000 billion roubles were available for equipment procurement.

"Much of this budget must be spread thinly to sustain over five million workers still employed by over 2,000 defence plants." the survey said. To help sustain the aero-

space industry. Russia was dependent on winning export ☐ Strategic Survey 1995/96.

Oxford University Press, £20. | attack a deliberate move by

Russians recycling Death of Dudayev leaves Chechens in power vacuum

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

A BITTER and possibly bloody power struggle is expected among top Chechen guerrilla chiefs as the rebel movement tries to fill the power vacuum left by the death of its leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The breakaway republic has announced three days of mourning for Dudayev, 52, who died during an airstrike on Sunday night near the village of Gekhi Chu, 20 miles south of Grozny. As he was buried yesterday, many Chechens were already won-dering which of the disparate group of mountain fighters would emerge to head the independence struggle.

The rebel authorities, who control a string of villages south of the capital, Grozny. and the sympathy of most Chechens, have announced that Dudayev's deputy, Zelim-khan Yandarbiyev, will lead the movement for now.

The burly former writer, 44. is best known for his unwavering loyalty to Dudayev and his



Yandarbiyev: named as temporary successor

hardline views, rejecting com-promise with Russia. Yester-day he vowed to continue the fight. "The tragic death of the first President of Chechenia has not broken the Chechen people and it is ready to continue . . . its struggle, "Tass quoted him as saying. However, Mr Yandarbiyev

Assault may force Gorbachev to quit

By RICHARD BEESTON

RUSSIA'S presidential election campaign turned violent yesterday when Mikhail Gorbachev, 65, the former Soviet leader, was attacked. According to police, a drunken man who claimed Mr Gorbachev's reforms cost him his job, hit him in the face as he made his way to address a largely hostile meeting in the western Siberian city of Omsk.

Although Mr Gorbachev's aides initially called the incident an "assassination attempt", police described it as "hooliganism" and said the man. 29, was unemployed and had psychological problems.

The architect of the 1980s perestroika reforms was shaken but not hurt. Cancelling his speech, he returned to Moscow on the first flight available. Aides called the "political provocateurs" to in-timidate Mr Gorbachev and force him out of the campaign. "From the very beginning, the authorities have displayed

their negative attitude," said Georgi Östroumov, a Gorbachev Foundation spokesman who claimed the authorities had imposed a media blackout on his campaign. In an interview earlier this

year with The Times, Mr Gorbachev said he hoped to offer a serious alternative to the front-runners. President Yeltsin and Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist leader. However, he has failed to

overcome the hostility still felt by many who blame him for the Soviet Union's break-up. In seventh place, with just under I per cent support, he may now decide to retire from

is not considered powerful enough militarily or influential enough among clan leaders to head the separatist movement at a critical period, when it must decide whether to fight or negotiate. The two Chechen com-

manders expected to emerge as leaders are Aslan Maskh-adov, chief of staff of the rebel forces, and Shamil Basayev, the popular and flamboyant field commander. In an interview earlier this month with the daily newspaper Nezavisi-maya Gazeta, Mr Maskh-adov, a former Soviet army officer, confirmed his moderate views and willingness to negotiate with Russia.

This war is useless. There can be no victors. We must look at the future realistically," he said. The commander, credited with building the Chechen forces into one of the most formidable guerrilla armies of modern times, distanced himself from terrorist operations and said he was willing to resume peace efforts broken off last summer.

In contrast Mr Basavev. who commanded the raid into the southern Russian town of Buddennovsk last summer, is totally uncompromising and has given repeated warnings that he is prepared to resort to terrorist acts inside Russia

unless its forces pull out.

The leadership battle will depend to a large extent on how the Kremlin responds to Dudayev's death. President Yeltsin, who arrived in China yesterday, said the peace drive would go on. "With or without Dudayev, all the same we will settle everything in Chechenia peacefully," he told Tass. Last month the President

announced a peace initiative to end the 16-month conflict, which envisaged a partial pull-out of Russian forces and talks via an intermediary. If the Russian leader is serious, and can rein in bellicose generals, Dudayev's removal could give him the chance to reopen dialogue. A deal before June's presidential elections would be a huge asset. But there is a real fear that the rebel movement could splinter into rival groups.



Rebel with fanatical self-belief

By Thomas de Waal

A HOST of unanswered questions have gone to the grave with Dzhokhar Dudayev. The most intriguing is to what extent the leader of Chechen nationalism was a Soviet general to the end.

Even at the height of the war there was suspicion that General Dudayev, 52, still maintained links with his old comrades in the Russian Air Force. Petr Deinekin, the air force commander, who masterminded the bombardment of Grozny and Chechen mountain villages, admitted recently that he had known the general, although he had never drunk a glass of vodka with him".

A former aide to the rebel President tells the story of how he planned a trip to Lithuania in 1992 by ringing his air force friends. They cleared an air corridor for him across

Dudayev grew up in Kazakhstan in the 1940s and 1950s, along with the rest of the Chechen population exiled there by Stalin, and never lived in Chechenia until he became leader in 1991. His school was the Soviet military, where he was regarded as a loyal officer who scrupulously carried out orders to bomb Afghanistan.

His wife, Alla, is a Russian fiving in Estonia. His poor command of the Chechen language was one reason why he co-opted Zelimkha Yandarbivev, a poet and one of his likely successors, to be his Vice-President.

Yet his proud demeanour and fanatical self-belief tapped a rich vein in the Chechens. who in 1991 were emerging from years of persecution and humiliation by the Soviet



EU rules on coach seat belts

of a First

Brussels: Seat belts must be installed for passengers in all new European coaches and minibuses by 2001, according to a European Union agreement this week that ends years of squabbling over road safety (Charles Bremner writes).

Under the new directive, all new-model coaches must carry two-point belt systems and strengthened seats from October next year. Two more years will be allowed for the installation of belts in new vehicles of existing models. New model minibuses will be required to have three-point belts from October 1999 and all new vehicles will come under the rule two years later.

Doctors strike over reforms

Paris: The French Cabinet pushed through three decrees to rein in the expensive and unwieldy healthcare system as doctors went on strike in protest (Ben Macintyre writes). The reforms complete an overhaul of the social security system outlined by Alain Juppé, the Prime Minis-ter, last autumn, which prompted the worst strikes in France since 1968. Doctors' unions say the latest moves will ration care and turn doctors into "accountants".

Airport flaw

Düsseldorf: The airport at: Düsseldorf did not conform to German fire regulations when a blaze killed 16 people on April 11. All the dead had inhaled toxic fumes, which made scores more people ili. The North Rhine-Westphalia Prime Minister, Johannes Rau, said flammable material was used in passenger termi-nal false ceilings. (Reuter)

Old lags off rails

MPs bac

Rome: A gang of three grand-fathers, posing as elderly gen-tlemen, looted and pickpocketed travellers at one of Rome's central train stations, La Stampa newspaper said. Confessing their crimes, the gang-leader Domenica Panella, 81, said: "But we weren't violent". (Reuter)

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Berlusconi questions election result

Rome: Italy's right-wing alliance yesterday engaged in increasingly bitter recrim-inations over its defeat in last Sunday's election, with Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon and leader of the conservative Forza Italia party, complaining that the votes which delivered a centre-left victory "did not add up" (Richard Owen writes). "There seem to me to be an impossible

number of spoiled ballot papers, not least

in areas like Emilia Romagna." Signor Berlusconi said. Emilia Romagna is a traditionally left-wing area and the home region of Romano Prodi, the economics professor from Bologna who is set to become Italy's next Prime Minister when parliament convenes on May 9.

Signor Berlusconi, who was Prime Minister for nearly eight months in 1994, has spent the past three days studying the

election returns and declared that the ballot did not reflect voters true intentions.

Alberto Michelini, a Forza Italia politician who is still contesting his narrow defeat in last year's regional election in Lazio, said: "It's easy to spoil a ballot paper: you just scratch it."

Leaders' early test, page 38

War crimes tribunal releases dying general

By Michael Dynes

THE UN war crimes tribunal yesterday gave up one of its star witnesses to the atrocities committed in Bosnia-Herzegovina because he is dying of

General Djordie Djukic, the man responsible for the shelling of Sarajevo which killed an estimated 10,000 civilians, was released on humanitarian

General Djukic, 62, the most senior Bosnian Serb held by the war crimes tribunal in The Hague, has terminal pancreatic cancer. Dutch medical experts say he has weeks to live. A defence request for all charges against General Djukic to be dropped on the

ground of insufficient evidence was dismissed.

Judge Richard Goldstone. the Chief Prosecutor, reluctantly agreed to the general's release, arguing that he would be unable to participate in his own defence.

War crimes investigators had hoped to use him as a test case for the doctrine of "command responsibility", under which senior officers are held accountable for acts carried out by their subordinates. They also hoped that he would give evidence against Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian leader, and General Ratko Mladic, the commander of the Bosnian Serb army.





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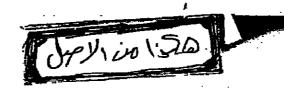
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Buyers pay dream prices for a little of Jackie O

Feverish bids to capture stardust of a First Lady

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

opening night of the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis auction confirmed the extraordinary esteem in which the late First Lady is still held, and said much about America's cult of

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THE ESTIMATE

the personality. Sotheby's pronounced itself amazed by the blizzard of bids for even the smallest souvenirs of "Jackie O". A simple tape measure, three inches in diameter, sold to a Manhattan fashion designer for \$42,500 (£28,000) excluding commission. That was a tenth of the sum paid for President Kennedy's favourite rocking chair, which went to an anonymous buyer for \$400,000 (£265,000).

Yet even that - for a thincushioned chair which had been estimated to fetch \$3,000 - was not the most extravagant gesture on a night of sybaritic spending. A cigar lover, Marvin Shanken, paid well over half a million dollars



Jackie O: the focus of

dy by Milton Berle. Mr Berle, who had been hoping to buy back the humi-

dor, said: "I never dreamed it would be worth that much. But I think it's terrific." Mr Shanken said that he had long been "in love" with President Kennedy — "a great man and a great smoker". It was a great night, too, for those who oppose New York's draconian anti-smoking policies, and Mr Shanken triumphantly (and illegally) lit himself a fat stogic

Bidders were encouraged by feverish atmosphere in the auction hall and were rewarded with applause and back-slapping for feats of high expenditure. A dowdy lamp used in the former Mrs Kennedy's White House snite went for \$42,500 (£28,000). "Is the bulb included?" quipped an onlooker. The answer was no.

Amid increasing hubbub, Mrs Onassis's dressing table set sold for \$35,000 (£23,000). a Robert Rauschenberg por-trait of JFK fetched \$220,000 (E146,000), and her baby grand piano was bought for \$150,000 (£100,000) by a Mrs Pat Baher as a gift for her husband, despite the fact that Mr Baher is no musician.

Proceeds from the sale will to Mrs Onassis's two children, Caroline and John Kennedy, who did not attend. The Kennedy children have said that they hope the astonishing trove of possessions, some precious, others touchingly mundane, will take with them to the outside world a little of their mother's spirit. For bidders, there was the price of \$100.





هر امن الاص



Rocking the record books: JFK in his favourite chair, a thin-cushioned seat that fetched \$400,000. Like so much in the auction, its price raised gasps

elusive hope that by buying something once owned by Jackie O. they could acquire

some of her sheen. More than 90,000 absentee bids were received, and telephones at Sotheby's New York offices were jammed. At least 1,000 people were admitted to the sale hall, with auxiliary rooms in Los Angeles and Chicago, and by the end of the evening the air in the hall was fetid. Bidders came from London, Paris and Tokyo, with a discernible sprinkling of South Americans.

The first of eight sale sessions, comprising 71 lots, made \$4,477,700 (about £3 million) not including auction house fees. Sotheby's originally expected the entire sale to make only \$5 million. The estimates for lots were preposterously low with, for instance, a little 19th century footstool going for 290 times its guide

Some bidders in the hall on Tuesday night wondered if Sotheby's stunted estimates in order to attract bids and generate a sense of expectation. Others argued that no sensible auctioneer could have got estimates so badly wrong on purpose.

Yesterday morning New York tabloids expressed their astonishment at the success of the sale in characteristically robust fashion. "Jackie Dough" cried the Post. The Daily News: "Off their

The most spectacular bids may yet be to come. Mrs Onassis's jewellery, including the pearl necklace once grabbed by the infant Jon-Jon and the vast diamond given to her by Aristotle Onassis as an engagement present, are expected to attract sums reach-

Dynasty's fortune secured by grand 'garage sale'

about her had much to do with

AMERICA has no Royal Family, but has more than made up for it with the Kennedys. Despite all the philanderings of its menfolk, the ogre-like personality of old man Joseph. Chappaquiddick and a thousand bar bills, the Kennedy clan has a grasp on the American imagination that exceeds all others.

Jackie O How Could You?" headlines asked when Mrs Kennedy wed the Greek shipping tycoon, Aristotle Onassis, but even that unlikely union did not dent the love America felt for the former Jacqueline Bouvier. It was, more than her

beauty and her position, her alcomess that earned her the lasting fascination of a society used to disposable personalities. She kept the public at arm's length. The desire of Alexander Forger, Mrs Onassis's lawyer, said this ordinary citizens to learn more

the astonishing sums paid for trinkets from her parlour. There has been speculation about the motives of Caroline and John Jr in selling so many of their mother's possessions. Are they trying to cast off the pelt of history? However, it has been disclosed that when she realised she was dying of cial comfort of her children. cancer in 1994. Jackie Onassis

plotted the grand garage sale" which started in spectacular manner on Tuesday

week that while she wanted her private papers to stay with the family, she felt little for her many chattels. "For tangibles, for furniture, tables, rugs, pictures, it was simply another element of property that had served its purpose and now could serve another purpose,' he said. So she planned the great sale, the proceeds of which should secure the finanNo snip for cigar lover's best friend

THAT President Kennedy's humider sold at auction for \$2 million will not surprise cigar lovers who will spend as much as £10,000 on custommade cabinets or boxes to

keep their cigars fresh.

The best humidors have a special electric humidifying system. Cigars age like wine and the circulating air helps the ageing process, according to Luc Daire, humidor expert at Alfred Dunhill.

More modest humidors usually lined with cedar wood and costing around £270, are used for temporary storage

Turkey's coalition shaken as MPs back inquiry into Ciller

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

Ciller's True Path Party.

large state electricity contracts could end with her indictment.

THE Turkish parliament decided yesterday to throw Tansu Ciller to the wolves - so threatening a ruling coalition

not yet seven weeks old. MPs voted by 232 to 179, a to support an opposition motion to investigate the former Prime Minister for "misuse of The late of the state of the st

The motion was brought by अन्य कार्यात्व के स्थापन के अन्य किया है। अन्य the pro-Islamic Welfare Party as part of a promised vendetta power after December's election. However, some of Mrs Ciller's government partners in the Motherland Party appear to have supported it.

campaign, Mesut Yilmaz, the ever, means she is disqualified Motherland leader, accused from being a minister. her of abusing high office to her husband, Ozer Ciller. Last

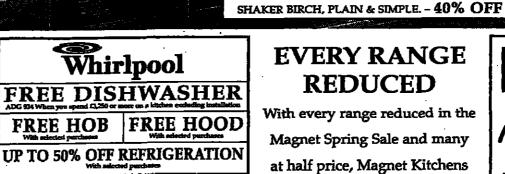
Yesterday's vote was not on against Mrs Ciller. Many be-March Mr Yilmaz swallowed lieved the motion was a stalkgotiations with Welfare to ation parliament will consider form a Government with Mrs on May 9 concerning a sealed tender she is accused of having opened improperly.

The understanding was that It remains to be seen if Mr Mr Yilmaz would be Prime Minister until the end of this Yilmaz can survive his triumph. Mrs Ciller threatened year and Mrs Ciller for the earlier in the week to pull out next two. Yesterday's vote may mean she will not get the of the coalition if the vote went chance. The launching of an against her. inquiry into her handling of

The one hope for the coalition's survival is for True Path to close ranks and soldier on







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Dole takes offensive as Republican 'funk' turns to panic

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Dole campaign is to step up its attacks on President Clinton in an urgent effort to stem a rising Republican pan-ic and erode the President's commanding poll lead before it becomes unassailable. The Republican National

Committee will shortly launch an advertising campaign on behalf of the party's nearly penniless nominee that will portray the President as an incurable liberal. Bob Dole himself plans to

deliver a series of speeches on issues, such as the economy and welfare, designed to draw an ideological contrast between himself and Mr Clinton. "We have got to push Clinton back in his liberal box," one senior Republican operative told yesterday's Los Angeles Times.

Mr Dole's advisers are also questioning the wisdom of his plan to campaign from the Senate floor, the so-called "rotunda strategy". The idea was to rush through a series of popular reform bills which the President would have either to veto and risk public wrath, or sign and let his challenger get the credit. In the event, congressional Democrats and Republican defectors have dealt Mr Dole a series of embarrassing reverses.

Republicans are beginning to fear not only that Mr Clinton will be re-elected, but that the Democrats could even regain the House of Representatives. Their "funk", as Newt Gingrich termed it, has been brought to a head by a string of polls showing Mr Dole now lagging up to 20 points behind Mr Clinton, and by outspoken criticism from other top

The Republican establishment is very down," a senior party strategist said. "The



Dole: savs Clinton is 'incurable liberal'

impact of the polls is starting to build. I predict we will be in a frothing panic by next

The polis show Mr Dole trailing the President not only nationally, but by substantial margins in the battleground states of the industrial Midwest, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, where the Clinton campaign has been advertising heavily. The Senate leader received no discernible boost from winning the Republican nomination and aides are worried that Mr Clinton's lead will harden and prove insurmountable if it is not eroded by mid-summer.

Earlier this week William

Bennett, a leading conserva-tive, broke ranks with a devastating speech in which he called the Dole campaign the Dole campaign "incoherent and dispassion-ate" and said the nominee aroused "very little enthusiasm" in the party.

The previous day Bill Kristol, a prominent Republican strategist who edits the conservative Weekly Stan-dard, predicted the lacklustre Mr Dole would lose badly and urged conservatives to keep their distance.

The Dole camp calls these critics the "sky is falling crowd", but Mr Kristol insisted he was stating only what many Republicans felt privately

"I had Republican mucketymucks call me up and deplore this kind of criticism, but I had calls from Republican elected officials saying I was right," he told the Boston Globe. "Maybe this will jar the campaign."

Tacitly admitting the problem, Haley Barbour, the Republican Party chairman, said it was time for Mr Dole to "get on offence". The senator and the party "need to make clear what is at issue, and the differences we have with Clinton, in the months between now and the [August] conventions if we are to reach

months of delays, President Clinton has named Peter Knight, a Washington lobbyist and fundraiser, as his campaign manager. Mr Knight, who is chairman of the Democratic National Committee's huge fund-rais-ing gala on May 8, will run the day-to-day operations of the campaign staff. (AP)

☐ Campaign boss: After



Girl's \$70,000 operation raises hint of a smile

fierce fighting continued for

the fourteenth day amid ur-

gent American diplomatic

At the same time there were

diplomatic reports that, for the

first time, the Lebanese army

had begun to take limited

action to try to restrain the

Hezbollah attacks, leading to

claims by officials that some

form of ceaselire might be

Sheikh Hassan Nastalian

the Iranian-backed leader of

Hezbollah (The Party of God).

ruled out Washington as a

mediator and vowed not to

accept any peace pact secured

by Warren Christopher, the

As the Islamic militant lead-

er was speaking, salvoes of

Katyusha rockets continued to

rain indiscriminately across

Galilee and Israeli jets

US Secretary of State.

agreed by the weekend.

moves to halt the violence.

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE PRICE of a little girl's grin is \$70,000 (£46,000). That is what it has cost for surgery on a seven-year-old child who was born without the facial nerves and muscles needed to smile. Blonde, blue-eyed Chelsey Thomas.

of Palmade, California, was in stable condition yesterday after an eighthour operation during which sur-geons extracted nerve and muscle

tissue from her leg and placed them in her jaw. If the two-part operation is successful. Chelsey may be able to greet her birthday on June 29 the same way as any other eight-year-old: with

deep dimples.

Chelsey was born with a rare condition known as Moebius Syndrome which afflicts 1,000 Americans. "Being unable to smile has numerous problems associated with it, both social and psychological," said Chelsey's surgeon, Avron Daniller, at

Kaiser Permanente Medical Centre, Los Angeles. "We are optimistic that the surgery will help alleviate Chelsey's problems.

The result will not be apparent for at least two months. Complications could occur if the nerve is not strong enough, or if the tissue was damaged during transfer from the girl's leg to her face. American television viewers were able to watch surgeons drawing red lines on Chelsey's rosy but glum-face. Lori and Bob Thomas, Chelsey's

parents, decided to proceed with the operations because they were unable to bear the thought of their daughter going through life without her face

ever radiating happiness. The first stage of the surgery was conducted in December and has lifted the left side of her face. When Chelsey arrived at the hospital for stage two she greeted cries of "good luck!" with a lop-sided grin. "When she has the other half of her smile, she will really

Chernobyl children | Hezbollah determined to carry on Lebanon fight

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

FAMILIES living in the area contaminated by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster ten years ago have twice as many genetic mutations as expected, scigoing on there," he said. entists have discovered. The 'It will in the future raise genetic changes are also found in children born since the accident, showing that they down the are passed

inherit mutations

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

A second study at the Chernobyl site in Ukraine also shows a high rate of genetic mutations in voles, although the species appears to be flourishing. Professor Sir Alec Jeffries, of

generations.

Leicester University and one of the team which reported the Nature, said that most experts did not believe that the levels of radioactivity around the plant would have genetic

"This is the first direct evidence for radiation actually causing mutation in human children," Sir Alec said. However, he made clear that the findings did not mean the children would develop diseases such as cancer. "This is all highly preliminary and suggestive, although there does appear to be something

questions about just what is the effect of low, persistent levels of ionising radiation in the environment from one human generation to the Sir Alec's group collected

blood samples from 79 families in rural areas of neighbouring Belorussia heavily affected by nuclear fallout from the accident on April 26. 1986. The families all had children born between February and September 1994. As comparison, they examined 105 British families who were not exposed.

The Belorussian families had twice as many mutations as the British families. The mutations were also clearly handed down from parent to child, and were permanently coded in the youngsters' genes, meaning that they will pass them on to their children.

HEZBOLLAH pledged yesterpounded targets close to Tyre. blasting a water pipeline sup-plying 23 villages in south day to continue attacks on Israeli troops in their occupied south Lebanon "security zone" Lebanon and three United - even if a ceasefire were Nations outposts in the region. achieved. The threat came as "Hezbollah's ink is not ever

going to be next to Israel's ink," the Sheikh said, amid reports that the Islamic militants' morale has been boosted by the failure of Israel's Operation Grapes of Wrath, now entering its third week, to halt the Karyushas. The fighting has killed more than 150 people and injured over 300, mostly Lebanese civilians.

While his belligerent remarks were further stoking a uuci inreateni if Islamic suicide bombers take revenge against Israeli or Jewish targets, Mr Christopher was swallowing his diplomatic pride in Damascus to meet President Assad of Syria after being snubbed 24 hours earlier. He later went into eastern Lebanon to meet Rafik Hariri, the Prime Minister,

before returning to Israel.

Mr Christopher did little to

disguise his irritation at Tuesday's unexplained refusal by Mr Assad to keep an agreed appointment to discuss Isra-'s reaction to the single-page S peace blueprint.

Meanwhile, there were ominous signs that Operation Grapes of Wrath was undermining improvements in Israel's standing in the Arab world. President Mubarak of Egypt called the continued pounding of Lebanese targets an unforgivable sin".

In Israel, backing for the Lebanon blitz remained high as the nation celebrated the 48th anniverary of its independence amid an unpreced security alert to prevent Islamic revenge attacks. ☐ Washington: President

Clinton said yesterday that America was ready to provide emergency aid to Lebanon and implied that the recent crisis may be nearing a ceasefire (Tom Rhodes writes). I hope we're quite close," Mr Clinton said before meeting President Hrawi of Lebanon.

Britain pledges to take volcano islanders

By MICHAEL DYNES

UP TO 500 inhabitants of the volcano-stricken Caribbean island of Montserrat are expected to enter Britain, diplomatic sources disclosed yesterday.

Most of the island's 9,000 inhabitants, who are largely descended from black slaves and dissident Irish banished there by Oliver Cromwell in the 17th century, are expected to enter America or other Caribbean islands in the event of a mass evacuation.

But Britain will accept any islander from the British dependency who has friends or relatives already living here. The islanders, who are not entitled to hold British passports, would be allowed to remain for up to two years.

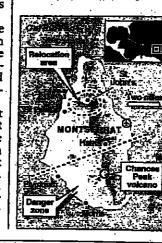
Those who decide to come to Britain will be expected to make their own way, although they will be entitled to income support and housing benefit on arrival. Any decision to allow them to stay beyond the two-year period would be made by the Home Office.

The vast majority of islanders have made it clear that they would prefer to stay where they are. But should a mass evacuation become necessary, British, French and American warships and air-

craft are on stand-by. Scientists believe that there is a one-in-ten chance that the volcano, known as Chances Peak, would erupt in a violent explosion. But the island authorities are increasingly concerned about the large amounts of black ash spewing out of the volcano, incinerating everything in its path. More than 5,000 people living on the south of the island were evacuated to the northern sector in April, following advice from British scientists.

Scientists now suspect that volcanic activity may have peaked, but the volcano is still blowing off black ash.

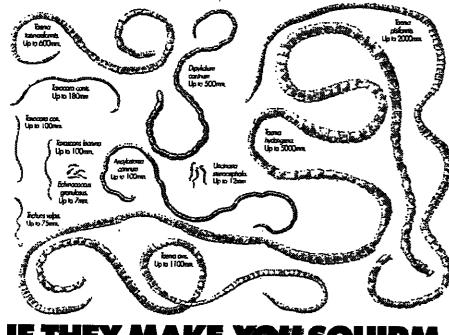
Most of the evacuated islanders are living in makeshift housing, with up to 200 living (in a single shelter. "You can not keep people in these conditions indefinitely."



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Tokyo cult leader tells trial of search for 'ultimate truth'

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

AT THE start of his trial yesterday. Shoko Asahara, leader of the Aum Shinrikyo doomsday cult, ducked the question of whether he plotted last year's nerve gas attack on the Tokyo underground.

Mr Asahara refused in enter a plea to three charges, including one of murder in connection with the sarin gas attack that left II people dead and thousands injured in the morning rush hour on March

When asked how he pleaded, the 41-year-old guru answered with a three-minute exposition of his religious views. "I want to help all the souls on earth to attain the ultimate truth," he said. Mr Asahara was also charged with the killing of an Aum disciple and the illegal production of anaesthenes.

His apparent lack of remorse provoked anger among who lost loved ones in last year's gas attack. From his attitude you could not even tell that he was attending a trial," said Tomoko Hirata, 24, who was among those injured. "He

looked bored throughout."
Ms Hirata said she wanted Mr Asahara to apologise to his victims. "But I no longer think of him as a human being, so it is probably useless to ask him to do that," she said.

The cult leader fidgeted and stroked his long hair and beard as prosecutors read out the charges and the names of more than 3,800 victims of the gassing and the extent of their injuries. Once grossly over-weight, Mr Asahara has lost about 60th in prison since his arrest last May, according to a pulice source.

The guru appeared in court dressed in a dark blue prison tracksuit, after his request to wear religious robes was denied by Judge Furnihiro Abe. Prosecutors had objected that the wearing of robes would have an undesirable influence

on cult devotees. About 10,000 Aum members were in thrall of the guru before his arrest. and the authorities fear that Mr Asahara may try to use the trial to somehow control his dwindling flock.

From behind bars, Mr Asahara has smuggled out messages to disciples and once attempted to send locks of his hair and nail clippings for use in religious rituals.

Most of the key figures in the Aum cult, which preaches that the world will end in 1997, are also on trial and some have implicated Mr Asahara in courtroom evidence. The start of the trial yester-

day was delayed when the defendant gave his name as Asahara rather than Chizuo Matsumoto, his legal name. "I threw away that name," he

several of Mr Asahara's followers on the police wanted list, tight security was in force around the



A sketch of Shoko Asahara, the Japanese doomsday cult leader, at the start of his trial in Tokyo yesterday

Tokyo District Court. Officials said the possibility of a "rescue attempt" by fanatical disciples could not be ruled out. The police presence was also intended to deter a revenge attack on the cult leader.

Media coverage was frenzied, with television networks cancelling scheduled pro-grammes to bring day-long coverage of events. Cameras

courts to broadcast proceedings. Out of more than 12,000 would-be spectators who queued from early morning. only 48 members of the public gained entry to the court in a

ottery for seats. Police say the cult stockpiled arms and operated a biological warfare laboratory and a nerve gas factory in a plot to overthrow the Government

Asahara faces 14 more charges in connection with these alleged activities in further trials. With appeals, the legal procedure could drag on for

more than a decade. The cult leader has said he is losing his mind because of the length of his confinement in the Tokyo detention centre. "I feel like an animal." he complained to a member of his 12-man defence team.

tions more amenable in the detention centre than in police cells where he was held during regular spells of interrogation.

However, he apparently finds the food and general condi-

"It's like going back to the zoo from hell." he is quoted as saying, describing the transfer from the cells to the detention

Leading article, page 21 | was clear of Hong Kong.

Dog meat back on the boat to China

FROM TOM WALKER

A FERRY operator plying between Hong Kong and China now includes a popular Chinese snack on its lunch

menu: dog.
The move has caused a now between the ferry company and the authorities in Hong Kong, where dog meat has long been banned, it has also renewed fears that dog could be back in Hong Kong restaurants after the handover to the

Chinese next year.

Hong Kong officials confirmed yesterday that legal action may be taken against Chu Kong Passenger Transport. But Lee Ziquing, a Chu Kong spokesman, remained unrepentant, claiming the sale of dog meat was "no different to buying duty-free cigarettes and alcohol".

The sale of dog meat in Hong Kong can incur a fine of up to £500 and six month's jail. Mr Lee said Chu Kong was not breaking the law. since passengers could order the meat only once the ferry

India poll hangs on caste vote

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN LUCKNOW

WITH two days before voting begins in India's general election, the outcome is already known: it will be a mess. Nobody can win ourright and vast amounts of money will exchange hands in post-poll horsetrading to form a shaky government that will probably not last a full term.

The three main contestants, the Congress Party, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and the flimsy National Front-Left Front alliance, will carve up most of the seats between them. All eyes will then turn to President Sharma, who will referee the fight to form either coalition or a minority government. India has never had a national coalition, although it had an unhappy experience with minority

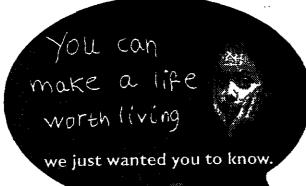
ered the "backwards".

Newly assertive backward castes are voting as they wish instead of as high castes tell

All but 20 per cent of the 590

million electorate are defined as "backward" castes, tribals or religious minorities. The two huge northern states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, which together account for nearly a quarter of seats in the lower house, are seeing a revolution that has empow-

them. The Congress Party, which has governed for most of the 49 years of independence, has thus been all but destroyed in the two crucial northern states. It nevertheless stands a good chance of forming the next government with the aid of regional parties. In any case, the outcome will be determined in smoky backrooms, and by suitcases



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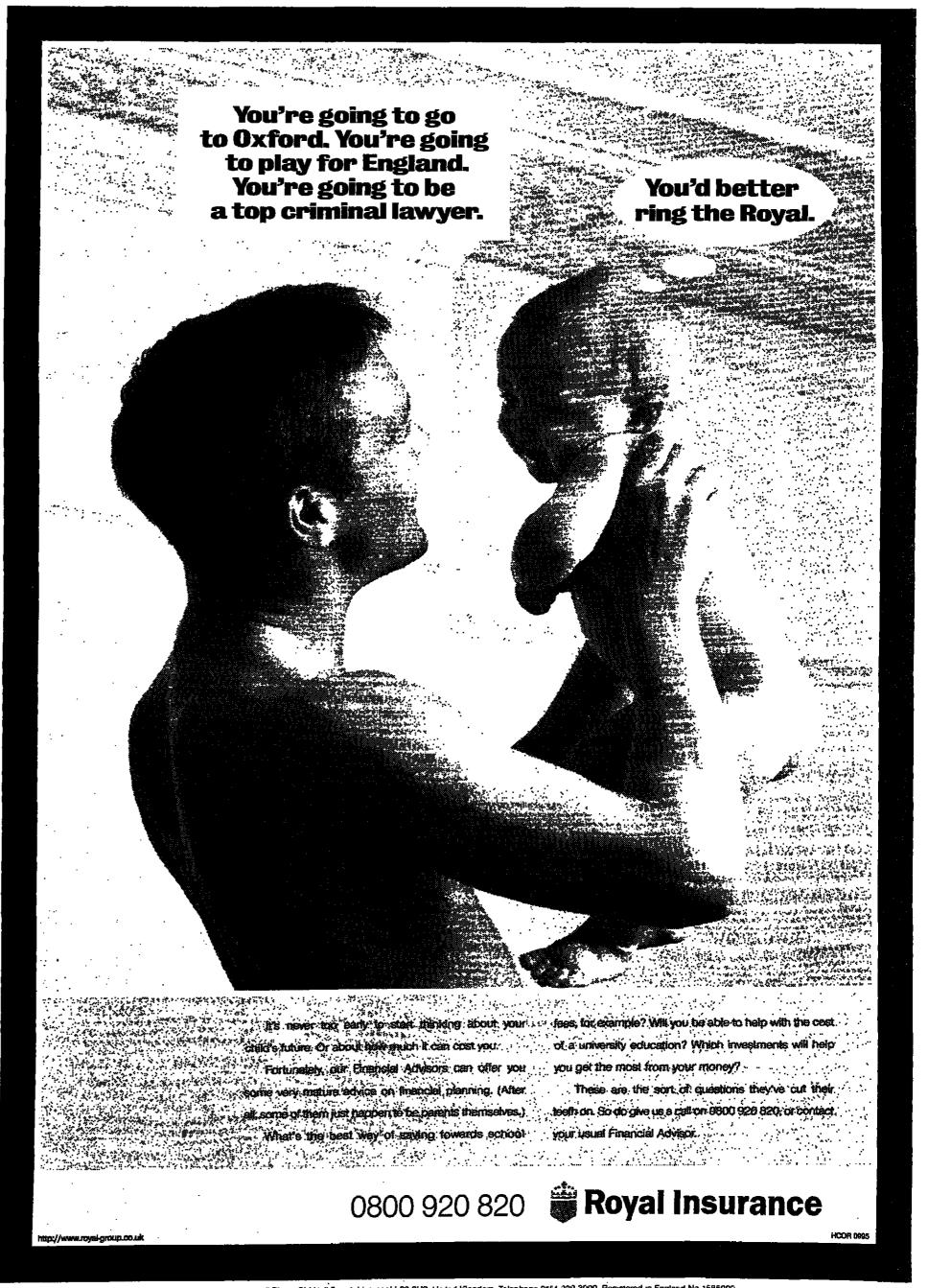
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Living with the guilt

THE MOTHER

is when

I pick

her up'

KATHY and Steve have a 14month-old daughter, Anastasia. At 8am each weekday for the past year. Kathy has taken Anna to a local nursery before starting a full day's work. She collects her daughter at 5.45pm.

knew I'd have to go back to work because we wouldn't have been able to cope on Steve's salary. We advertised in The Ladv for a nanny and advertised locally for a childminder. Neither alternative really satisfied us. The nannies we spoke to were terribly young

or didn't speak good English. We 'The best decided on a nursery because we felt Anna would be feeling in constantly stimulated. It was a the world when we first visited our chosen nursery, I felt reassured — there was a good staff-child ratio and lots going on. I felt

and happy, although the thought of leaving her there was hard — in the three months since her birth I had never really been without

The week before I went back to work, Steve and I took her into the nursery to get her used to it. We stayed for 30 minutes and then had to go for an hour. I felt horrible. I looked through the window as I walked past and I could see her lying there in this room without me. I had this big lump in my throat. Steve was telling me not to upset myself but I couldn't help it. I felt so terribly guilty, like I was deserting her.

We got back to the house, but I couldn't relax. I was watching the clock go round. desperate to go back.

The first full day was even harder. Although Anna seemed OK, it was very, very hard to walk away. I couldn't concentrate at work, I kept looking at the clock and wondering what she was up to. I rang after an hour to see how she was and then again at lunchtime - the nursery said I could ring as often as I wanted. I couldn't wait for the clock to go round.

The worst thing is waiting for a call telling you that your child is unwell, or has had an accident. It has happened a couple of times and the guilt is tremendous. You think you should have been there. I remember one morning when Anna had a rash under her arm. It wasn't serious and she wasn't in pain so I took her into the nursery.

Even though she was fine I felt so guilty all day that I vowed I would never do that again.

She seems happy there, but it is hard knowing that you are miss ing your child growing and developing. Anna first crawled at nursery, she took her first step there. They told me when I went to

pick her up and I felt proud, but sad that I hadn't been there to see it. Steve and I both felt we'd missed

something. I have photos of Anna in my Filofax so that I can keep her with me during the day.

The best feeling in the world is when I pick her up - she comes running towards me, jumping up and down, rattling at the gate of her play area. She's so excited to see me. On a couple of occasions she's turned round and wanted to go back. It's a very strange thing thinking that she is more attached to the nursery than she is to you.

I'm doing this for her. I want her to have a good quality of life. While I would love to be at home with her. I know she's happy, she's being edu-cated and she's learning to be independent. But it is a sacrifice and the guilt stays with you all the time."

KATHRYN KNIGHT



Fourteen-month-old Anastasia waits for her mum to pick her up from her nursery

Daycare can benefit babies

THE EXPERTS

arents in other parts of Europe would be mystified by the debate that erupted yesterday over the merits of nursery education for twoyear-olds. As in America, most take it for granted.

In France, the age of entry to the ecole maternelle has been reduced this year, allowing some children to begin state education at two and a-half. Parents drop them off at 8.30am and pick them up at 4.30pm, most worrying more about fatigue than the emotional effects of separation. Belgium has similar ar-

rangements, beginning at the age of three while state childcare from an early age has been part of the system throughout Scandinavia for many years in the United States, private nurseries and creches cater for children who are only a few months old:

Academics have been arguing for decades about the psychological impact of childcare, but most of the

research has been conducted overseas because British provision has been so scarce. Studies in Sweden and the United States have concluded that there is no evidence of psychological damage that Paddy Holmes, the Ditcham Park headmistress, fears for children who are separated from home for long periods.

esearchers have found advantages in the development of social skills and there is evidence of academic benefits when children start school in France, where 250,000 two-year-olds attend nurseries, only 10 per cent of those who start at two have to repeat the elementary year at school, compared with 18 per cent who start at four and 30 per cent who have no formal pre-school education.

The age group under dis-cussion has become younger as the debate has gone on. While John Bowiby, whose Attachment Theory is the

seminal work, held that daycare in the first three years could damage, the focus has switched to those under one.

More recently, however, nursery education for twoyear-olds has almost ceased to be an issue. Professor Rudolph Schaffer, of Strathclyde University, says: The re-search has been virtually unanimous that children benefit from good quality nurser-

ies at quite a young age."
A project, which included figures from both camps and funded by the US Government, reported last week that after examining 1,200 children, more than half of whom were in full-time daycare, academics reached the conclusion that separation from the mother was not harmful, unless both the home and nursery lacked sensitivity. As long as there was a caring atmosphere in one sphere of their lives, children would survive emotionally.

JOHN O'LEARY

Weighing up what is best

WHEN Heidi Clapp opened the Corner House Nursery in west London, she had one strict rule: none of her 14 staff would wear a nursery uniform. As a former Norland Nanny, she had come to loathe the regulation chocolate brown shifts that are the trademark of Britain's most exclusive pram-pushers.

Though she thinks that day nursery is not right for every child, Mrs Clapp takes babies from as young as three months old. "We have nine places in our baby room and three staff to look after them," she says. "At present, all the parents of our babies work. Some are doctors, barristers. bankers and journalists. In most cases, the couple needs two salaries in order to keep the lifestyle they want. There are others who prefer their baby to be with other THE NURSERY

children rather than at home with a nanny."

The baby room in her Chiswick nursery, which opened in 1991, has mobiles over the cots and music playing. Babies can stay for ten hours, but many parents start their youngsters with half-days. The £700-a-month fees include nappies.

Mrs Clapp, 37, who is married to a BBC manager and has another nursery in Ealing, practises what she preaches. Her son, Adam, now six, attended the nursery from the age of three months.
The benefits are clear, she says, adding: "He always liked mixing with adults and children. I think it benefited him to start here at theree. months — he is now ad-

vanced for his class at primary school."

Mrs Clapp thinks mothers should not feel guilty about leaving their children at an early age. She says: "Plenty of studies say that so long as the child has formed an emotional base, they can go on to make further emotional ties easily."

Mrs Clapp believes the most important balance to strike is to recognise the difference between your own needs and the child's. For example, she took her son toswimming lessons when he was three. "He hated them." she says. "I realised I was doing it to benefit myself because I was so proud that my son could swim. You have to weigh up what is best for your child."

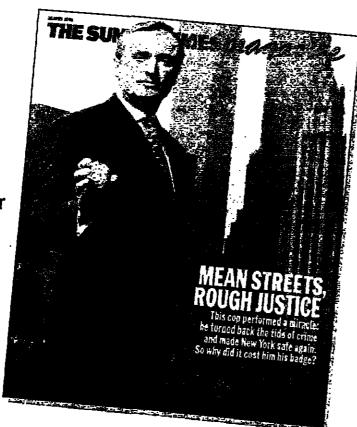
EMMA WILKINS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

CRIME BUSTER IS **BLOWN AWAY**

He tackled serious urban crime by getting a grip on petty urban crime, such as begging and vandalism. It worked: Bill Bratton was a sensational success as commissioner of police in New York. Then he had to throw in his badge . . .

Russell Miller finds out why, in The Sunday Times Magazine





JEFFREY ARCHER

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THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Good rays in small doses

A Watkins's service included with a couple of years in a sanatorium. Diagnosed as having TB, a diagnosis since questioned, he was lucky to survive.

Recently George, now in his 80s, developed a persistent cough. It is almost certainly nothing more than bronchitis attacking a badly damaged lung but, as TB can become reactivated in the older age groups in whom the immune system is failing, it seemed in order to arrange for a chest X-

Even George hadn't had TB when he went into the sanatorium he had been given every opportunity of catching it once there.

George, how-ever, had his own opinion about Xrays and thought, not unreasonably, that he had had enough for one lifetime. We agreed on compromise and procrastination.

Many people this week have been disturbed by the Panorama programme on the hazards of X-ray. Dr Michael Brindle, president of the Royal College of Radiologists who practises in King's Lynn, says that this week several of his patients have refused X-ray investigations, and in the case of some of them a lack of an Xray could lead to serious ill-

There is a risk in X-ray investigations and therefore as a matter of principle unnecessary ones are not carried out.

fter the war. George Watkins's service life Having a chest X-ray is less risky than smoking a single cigarette

> Each request for an investigation is thought about carefully before it is ordered.

> Patients should however be reassured, for the risk is very small. Someone living in Britain for instance is eight times more likely to die from exposure to the natural radiation in the environment, whether it is derived from the earth or cosmic radiation, than they

are from visits to a hospital X-ray department.

The danger to George's life of having a chest Xray is the equivalent of smoking one cigarette, not one a day, but one in a lifetime. Another reassuring calculation shows that the modern X-ray machine exposes

MEDICAL

BRIEFING

Dr Thomas

the body during a chest X-ray to only half the ad-Stuttaford ditional radiation to which it would be exposed by a jet flight to Spain. In theory 50,000 chest X-rays would be needed to increase the chances of a patient eventually dying from a cancer from 25 per cent to 27 per cent. Because chest X-rays are so commonly ordered they have tended to be regarded as a bechmark of radiation hazard when in fact they produce so little radiation that they can be

too reassuring. An X-ray of a complete spine, or a CAT scan, will expose a patient to many times

the amount of radiation used to obtain a chest film.

Although the Royal College of Radiologists is not complacent about the hazards of radiation it is proud that its strictures on the use of unnecessary investigations have resulted in anyone living in Britain being likely to have been exposed to only half the amount of X-radiation that those who live, for instance, in Canada or Japan will have

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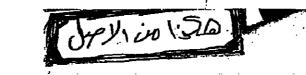
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that the rest of us don't. We all use

the same spices, don't we? This is



ost foreign imports bear little, if any, rela-tion to the original source and the most popular Indian dish in this country is no exception. The next time you visit an Indian restaurant, whether it is the local Taj Mahal on the high street or the more upmarket Star of India in South Kensington, chances are that you will order a chicken tikka masala, consistently the number one choice for the past couple of years.

But it's time to lift the lid on the chicken tikka masala story, or CTM as it is known in the trade. Contrary to popular belief, this dish would not be recognised in India - for the simple reason that it doesn't exist there. Chicken tikka, cooked in the tandoor (or clay oven) is a familiar sight. But it is a dry dish and the British love of gravy with their meat mean that it needed an overhaul. Add a dollop of tomato sauce and the CTM was born. A classic example of market-led forces at work.

Unbeknown to the British publie, it is not just the CTM that is non-Indian. So are the majority of Fancy going out for a Bangladeshi?

Curry wars have broken out on the high street and the fate

them are run by Bangladeshis and this identity crisis has led to one of the most important periods in British curry history. Soon the face of the high-street curry house might change forever and the phrase "Fancy going out for an Indian?" could become an anachronism. The curry wars have started and your vindaloo is at stake. Should it be made the way grandmother does in Bombay, or is it permissible to dose curries with different strengths of chilli

powder to retain the punters' perception of an Indian meal? These are hot questions in curry circles as they raise the matter of authenticity versus "give em what they want". Now there is a campaign afoot to rename threequarters of Britain's 7,500 Indian restaurants as Bangladeshi. Pat Chapman, founder of the Curry Club and author of Indian cookbooks, explains: "In the 1970s of chicken tikka may be at stake, Robina Dam reports

really getting under way, Bangladesh was such a new country that most people in Britain hadn't even heard of it." Bangladesh was part of Pakistan and it was

only in 1971 that it became independent. Now the second generation of Bangladeshi restaurateurs want national recognition and have set up the Guild of Bangladeshi Restaurateurs. Marketing is a

priority. At the guild's launch Angela Browning, the Food Minister, congratulated the achievements of restaurateurs from Bangladesh over the past 50 years. That the nation had only been



around for 25 years had obviously passed her by.

"It's about time you knew who was cooking your curry," declares Abdul Miah, owner of the Bina in Reading and one of the guild's three founders.

restaurants run by Indians have also set up a club. Enter the Elite Indian Restaurant Associ-ation, brainchild of Kal Dhaliwal, who owns the Shimia Pinks chain in the Midlands, and the Killermont Polo Club in Scotland. Mr Dhaliwal wants to change the unfortunate image that Indian restaurants have of

Not to be outdone, the

Jes 100 150

red flock wallpaper and background sitar music. "As its name suggests, Elite will consist only of the creme de la creme of Indian restaurants. They will only be invited to join if they make the grade," he states.

Elite's co-president, Namita

just snobbery." comparing her chic Chelsea res-taurant, Chutney Mary, with Le Caprice and Daphne's, in contrast to the Bangladeshi-owned restau-rants: "the fast-food equivalent of

the Indian restaurant industry at

such as the Bombay Brasserie,

Tamarind and Café Spice Namaste. "If the Bangladeshi

restaurants want to declare their

national identity, then that's good for the image of the higher quality

Indian ones. The food served by the Bangladeshis would not be recognisable in sub-continental

Mr Miah is furious at what he

sees as aspersions cast on the

culinary skills of Bangladeshi chefs and owners. I'd like to

know what ingredients she uses

homes," she says.

I he points out that the top 5 per cent of the sector are genuine Indian restaurants

the cheaper end of the market".

However, Atul Kochlar, execu-tive chef at the slick Mayfair restaurant Tamarind, is one of the Indian purists appalled at how traditional dishes have been cor-rupted. "It's a mission for chefs coming to this country from the sub-continent to change the way Indian food is perceived here."

Mr Miah dismisses the highbrow approach. "At the end of the day, we provide customers with what they want. Chicken tikka masala, korma and pasanda are our most popular dishes. Who cares whether they are authentic?" If the evidence is anything to go by, not many.

The tale is about to come full circle. While the curry neighbours fight it out, the Ang-lo/Indian/Bangladeshi curries go from strength to strength. In an ironic twist, the chicken tikka masala has been introduced to India. Coals to Newcastle it may be, but it looks like Britain's success story is about to be reneated — this time on home turf.

Jackie O – going, going, gone



For sale: Jackie Onassis wearing her cabochon ruby and diamond earrings (enlarged above)

is like to be chatted up by the mighty Diana "Dede" Brooks, the chief executive of Sotheby's. The corners of her mouth played into a smile and her right eyebrow quivered. She flashed those eyes, pouted, flared her nostrils. "Well?" she said. "How about it? Do you

say yes? Hmmm?" Her proposal was not for some torrid tryst but rather, on the opening night of the selling of America's "crown jewels", that I should add another \$1,000 to my already stretched bid for a set of cracked, rather common-looking porcelain plates. On these plates the late Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis may, or may not, have served cookies summer afternoons in Hyannisport. Mrs Brooks was hard to resist, Clad in cobalt, she stood on Tuesday night. hammer raised, on Sotheby's stand in New York. I dithered, then declined.

The plates went for \$9,000. one of the cheapest lots on a night which saw a cascade of money. Outside, thunder announced Manhattan's first storm of spring. Inside it was pelting dollars.

Joan Rivers arrived in the hope of buying a couple of 3rdcentury BC terracotta horses. 'i knew Jackie O," she said with a wriggle of the shoulders. Joanie was one of several to leave the auction house disappointed. The terracotta horses, which had been given catalogue estimate of \$12,000, went for \$72,500.

Marie and David Cooper flew in from London to bid for the rocking horse on which little Caroline Kennedy played in the White House nursery in the early Sixties. "We have seven children ourselves," said the elegant Mrs Cooper, who described her husband as "Europe's most expensive lawyer". But even they were to be frustrated. Bids for the rocking horse, which started at the catalogue low estimate of \$2,000, rose within a couple of minutes to \$75,000. "Blimey," said a bug-eyed Mrs Cooper. You could buy a Derby runner for that!"

The rocking horse went to a dark-haired beauty a couple of rows behind the Coopers. Beside her sat a plumpish, flush-cheeked man who had clearly just seen his wallet sucked dry.

Before the sale began at 7.30pm there had been a discernible tension in the hall. As a bidder, I had the feeling you get when you are about to go out to bat in a cricket match: a prickling of the hairline and dryness of mouth. To acquire a bidding paddle you had first to be vetted by Sotheby's - "we can usually tell when someone is

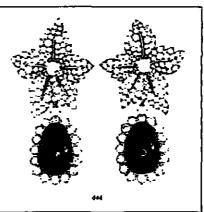
Quentin Letts tries to join in the bidding at the Kennedy sale of the century in New York, but fortunately finds himself hopelessly outclassed

auction official, giving my scuffed black shoes a dubious look.

The first lot, two dull seashell engravings. went for ten times their \$700 estimate price. The bidding took less than 20 seconds. Up came a Louis XV ormolu and parinated bronze mantel clock, estimated by Sotheby's experts to fetch something in the region of \$5,000. Whoosh went the bidding, Mrs Brooks shouting the numbers like a cattle auctioneer at Her-

eford market. "You say 39?" she cried to a check-shirted fellow at the back of the hall. 'Nine!" he shouted back, with a Texan accent. But in came a higher bid. "Forty!" The Texan, beaten, slumped back in his chair.

Raoul Felder, New York's flashiest divorce attorney, who has in the past tried to offer advice to the Princess of Wales, shimmered by to say "Hi". What was he interested



Aristotle's wedding gift (est. \$25-35,000)

in buying? "The desk on which President Kennedy signed the nuclear test-ban treaty," he disclosed, scratching an ear. It is the sort of thing a divorce lawyer needs, doncha think?" Pat Kluge, former wife of mogul John Kluge, dumped \$120,000 on two Louis XVI chairs. She wanted *something specific to take back home to Virginia".

In the packed hall of more than 1,000 there were proba-

bidding seriously. A Japanese against the wall tapped furiously into a pocket calculator and shook his head. Former Chrysler chairman Lee laccoca realised it was no night for financial logic and dropped his arm.

Time and again 1 entered the bidding. One time, with a rush of fear, I thought I had won a 1910 German earthenware pot with a bid far beyond my private limit. It was with some relief that Mrs

Brooks, after starting to say "to the gentleman at the side...", noticed a higher bid from the floor. The pot, estimated at \$800, fetched Pat Baher wanted Jackie O's

ebonised baby grand piano, the one which used to stand in her Fifth Avenue duplex. Mrs Baher, on the left-hand-side of the hall, bid like a terrier. The price started at \$3,000, and an impressive struggle developed

between Mrs Baher and a man on the right. Mrs Brooks called their bids like a tennis umpire, switching her head from side to side of the hall as she looked to each bidder to see if more money was forthcoming. The price hit \$150,000. Mrs Brooks dropped

the hammer and Mrs Baher had her baby grand, squealing with delight and clenching her fists in pleasure. "It is a gift for my husband," she told me. "He doesn't play the piano. But he will."

Bids were relayed by telephone from Los Angeles and Chicago, with LA winning some of John Kennedy's books and Jackie's cigarette lighter.

This really was the sale of the century, at least as far as New York was concerned. Manhattan loved Jackie Bouvier, and her death two years ago left a void at the top of the city's social pyramid. The extraordinary, even ridiculous amounts spent on the opening night of this auction were a very American demonstration of affection for a woman of mysterious substance.

After two hours of auctioneering, a hoarse, exhausted Dede Brooks accepted a glass of wine and I folded my unsuccessful bidding tool. "Never mind," said kind Mrs Cooper. "At least you got your paddle up.

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True peers are made, not born

Jack Straw, Shadow Home

Secretary, defends Labour's reform

ccording to Churchill. the Lords in the early part of the century was "filled with old doddering peers, cute financial mag-nates, clever wire-pullers, big brewers with bulbous noses. All the enemies of progress are there — weaklings, sleek, smug, comfortable, self-im-

portant individuals". Eighty-five years on, after two Parliament Acts have reduced the powers of the Lords, membership of a legis-lature on the basis of birth remains, in Tony Blair's words, "a manifest constitunonal unfairness".

There is simply nothing to justify it. An informal committee under the (hereditary) Earl of Carnarvon sought to do so last year and failed. The best argument it could construct was that the "present House introduces a random element into political life".

Random? A study of the Lords in 1981 showed that 80 per cent of hereditary peers had been to public school, and well over half (431) had been to Eton. There has been no comparable study since, but precisely because the Upper House is hereditary, the background is unlikely to have changed in the past 15 years.

The Carnaryon report claimed that The Lords a House of Lords without hereditary has recently peers would "continue to embrace become past presidents of the Royal Colleges on the General more Tory, Medical Council not less but "would contain

no ordinary doctors or dentists". Yet of 19 doctors but none has the equivalent of and dentists in the Lords in the early 1980s, just three were hereditary, and I doubt that any of those were "ordinary". By contrast, 60 per cent of all hereditary peers were landowners or farmers.

Nor has chance played any greater part in their political loyalties. Today, 328 hereditary peers take the Conservative Whip, 22 are Liberal Democrats and 13 are Labour (another 172 are crossbenchers, and 72 have no aniliauon of any kino). In fact the Lords has in recent years become more, not less Tory. Tory peers have increased by 33, while Labour numbers have declined by 28.

The hereditary principle is defended by John Major and Brian Mawhinney as though it were the ark of the covenant. Yet whenever the Tories have thought seriously about the position of the Lords in the past, they have concluded that a Second Chamber so dominated by birth and one party is indefensible. In 1948 a party leaders' conference, which included the Conservatives, concluded that a reformed House of Lords should be such that "a permanent majority is not assumed for any one political party". More recently, a Conservative review committee in 1978, under the former Prime Minister Lord Home, recommended a Chamber based on a mix of election and appointment. It said: "The maintenance of the status quo is not a prudent policy. Indeed, we are doubtful whether it is a policy

Labour does have a policy. It is, as a first stage, to remove the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the Lords. That pledge will form part of our manifesto, and if we are elected it will become part of

our legislative programme.
Some hereditary peers in all parties make an important contribution to the Lords, and as Tony Blair has made clear. some of them could be made life peers. There will also be no change of titles.

What we will secure is a

Second Chamber based on merit - on the attributes of those who hold the title, not on those of their forebears.

Britain is often slow to change its institutions, and the removal of hereditary peers will be an enormous democratic gain. Moreover, a reformed Chamber is likely in practice to be more self-confident and more questioning, precisely because it will have ceased to be dominated perpetually by one party. That will make for better government, if a less comfortable ride for ministers. After the Nolan report's suggestions about appointments, new life peers should be more varied than they are today.

Two arguments are often made against our proposed reforms. The first is that removing hereditaries from the Lords might bring the position of the monarchy into question.

This is nonsense. Plenty of Western states have constitutional monarchies, an unreformed Lords. The second argument is that until there is complete clarity about long-term changes there should be no reform at all. But as with previous constitutional

reforms in this country, it is

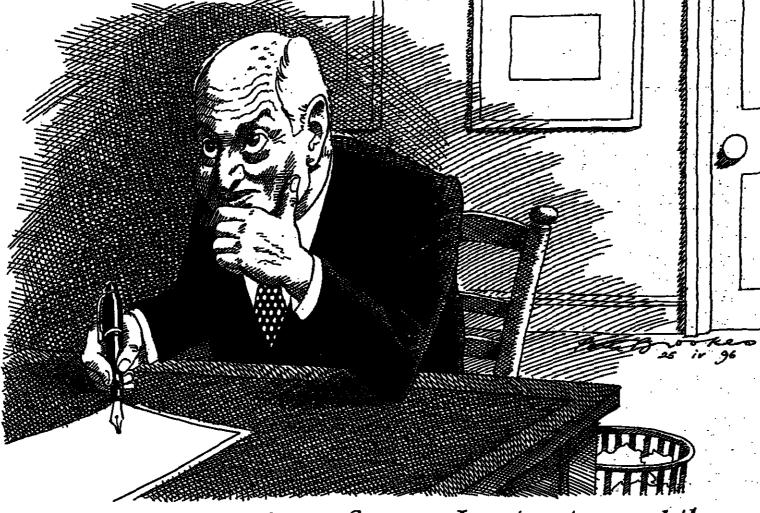
vital that staged changes are

made on the basis of a well

understood case and wide The Constitution Unit's report on the Lords. published today, offers a valuable insignt into the process necessary for achieving the second stage of reform. whether it be a Chamber wholly elected or one based partly on election and partly on appointment. The report spells out the need for "consultation, consensus, inquiry" before a change of such magnitude could, or should, take place. It also has good advice about possible midwives

for such a process (such as a royal commission, an all-party parliamentary committee or a party leaders' conference). It is a strength of Labour's current position that it does not have a dogmatic view about exactly what such a Second Chamber will look like. We are open-minded about the process. As well as being inherently just, our simple reform of removing hereditary peers will stimulate a public debate about the Lords' future. By the time the project that Churchill and others embarked on at the beginning of this century is complete, the solution will be the best and

most popular available.



"To The Editor, The Times: Sir, may I venture to record the Sound of an absolute cuckoo heard yesterday addressing the Institute of Directors...? Yours, &c., James Goldsmith"

Modern media ministers

ight o'clock on a Sunday morning at No 4 Millbank. and the minister is waiting for the first of his interviews. It is with GMTV, who will give him five minutes, allowing him time for Breakfast With Frost on BBC, sandwiched with a quick cross-examination from Radio Five Live before a clutch of regional and commercial radio stations, who put in their "bids" earlier in the week. Later on, he has been booked in to Sky News and On the Record, and there just could be a slot on The World This Weekend. By the end of the morning, if he's up to it, he will have done nearly 20 interviews — "two-ways", "head-to-heads", "down the line" - all part of the broadcasting jargon these days, but equally familiar to the modern media

Sunday, once gloomily known by journalists as a "slow day", has become a highly productive one for polinicians and news managers, a seedbed for the next day's headlines. It also yields a rich harvest of blunders. Given the range of the output, the potential for misunderstandings, contradictions, and splits (or hair-line fissures) is enormous. Listening intently to each programme are the spin-doctors from Tory Central Office and Labour headquarters at Walworth Road, ready to detect and highlight the slightest outbreak of heresy from the lips of their rivals. Then, if things have gone badly wrong, there may, next day, be a need for another minister, or even the same one, to be wheeled out to "reorientate" the party line.

For those who relish the swordplay of party politics this is all good robust fun - not much blood shed, but a very satisfying clang of steel on steel nevertheless; and the noise is about to get louder. Next Wednesday, May I, marks what one Tory party official describes as a "defining moment" in the political calendar: it is one year exactly to the last possible date for a general election, and ministers will be told that unless they are prepared to fight and win the battle of the airwaves, then in a year's time they may simply no longer be around to joust with John Humphrys, or trade badinage with

Sir David Frost But before they cancel their ap-pointments and head feverishly for the television studios at Millbank -

Magnus Linklater asks if policy is now subordinate to news management

More

policymaking

now seems to be

done off the cuff

and on air than

in private

where most of the running commentary on the Westminster scene now comes from - let us press the pause button, and ask whether this form of maximum access politics, in which policymaking sometimes appears to take place live on television before our very eyes, is entirely to the benefit of the nation. Last weekend was a fair example of

government by cock-up rather than common sense. Delicate negotiations over the BSE affair were sent flying by some of the most ham-handed examples of news management we have seen for some time. John

Major's remarks about the Euroleaders, whom he accused of behaving like "a bloody bunch of shits", were leaked by party managers to the Sunday Express to give the Prun Minister a suitably robust image as his Foreign Secretary went into a negotiating session with

his opposite numbers in Brussels. This was talked up on various programmes during the day, and echoed on Monday by Malcolm Rifkind, who warned of retaliatory action if the ban on beef exports was not lifted. The temperature was raised further with talk of trade sanctions, withholding Britain's EU contribution, and even the "nuclear option" of a ban on all European

foodstuffs. By then Downing Street had begun to panic, and by the time Channel Four News came around that evening, Michael Heseltine was forced to step in to calm an outbreak of hysteria which had been entirely of the Government's making. Any suggestion that this was a Machiavellian piece of spin-doctoring designed to humble or bewilder our Euro-rivals crumbled when it emerged yesterday that there had been recriminations within the Cabinet over a manoeuvre that had been badly mishandled. One view, from within the Tory

camp, was that this demonstrated the

weakness of the Downing Street publicity machine and that there was a need for more ruthless control of ministerial comments, preferably under the guidance of Central Office. Others thought this was precisely the wrong way round, and blamed the gung ho attitude of Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, who urged belligerence rather than diplomacy in

the run-up to the BSE negotiations. What no one questioned was the sub-text of all this: that the medium is in danger of overtaking the message. Over the past ten years, the appetite

for this kind of story has increased, partly because of the proliferation of media outlets, partly because of the speed with which they can now react. A minister or opposition spokesman or "e-mail" within seconds of a story breaking. He can give an off-the-cuff

response, or be in a nearby studio within minutes. A tape of what he says can be played back to a rival spokesman within the hour. Instead of having to wait for a lunchtime news-slot, a "rolling news" programme - Sky. Radio Five or any commercial station — can get it onto the air straight away. By the time of the early evening news, there will have been reactions from all interested parties. Producers of the main evening news may already have begun to feel jaded and to want a further response. The Opposition will be more than happy to provide it, so the luckless minister may have to

haul himself into yet another studio. Of course, you could argue that there is nothing fundamentally new here. News and its manipulation has been the stock-in-trade of politicians since Gladstone first addressed a mass audience during his 1879 Midlothian campaign, or since Henri de Blowitz, The Times's legendary Paris correspondent, invented the political interview. You could say that Baldwin was the first Prime Minister to

blame the media when he accused Beaverbrook and Rothermere of being "engines of propaganda" in 1931. And you could reasonably claim that it was a previous Tory chairman, Lord Poole, who first used television as a propaganda weapon. After one notorious party broadcast in 1964, the political correspondent of The Daily Telegraph marvelled. I have never seen any party make more telling use of ten minutes on the television screen, to which Lord Poole re-sponded jovially: "If you don't parade the circus down the street no one will buy a ticket for the night."

ut it is the speed with which the parade can now be mounted, and the immediate access to millions of voters that has changed the nature of the circus. Brian Mawhinney highlighted how far things have come when he recalled the story of Harold Macmillan and his Foreign Secre-tary, Selwyn Lloyd, arriving back from a foreign trip to be greeted by just one BBC reporter at the airport. When the BBC man asked whether Macmillan or Lloyd had anything to thanked them deferentially and went on his way. It would be inconceivable today for a minister to say nothing on such an occasion, or for the media to accept it if he did.

Things have got to the point where one sometimes wonders whether more time is not spent discussing policy on the air than in deliberating on it in private. If there is no clear consensus beforehand about how a matter should be handled in public, there is unlimited potential for gaffes. One commentator makes the point that to blame the medium is to miss the point. The Government would not be in this kind of trouble, he said, if it were not hopelessly split over Europe: the Opposition would not be so vulnerable if it could present a united front on tax. I doubt that, though. Journalists and politicians abhor a vacuum. If those stories were not available, one side or the other would

feel obliged to invent a substitute. The only thing one can say for certain about the year of campaigning that lies ahead is that Attlee's plea to Harold Laski — "a period of silence on your part would be welcome" will be lost in a cacophony of sound-

bites, starting on Sunday. William Rees-Mogg is away.

Africa needs no voyeurs

Sam Kiley says

Diana's stunt did harm, not good

he Princess of Wales this week joined the mass media in shamelessly exploiting the mawkish voyeurism of the television viewing public by being filmed observing an operation to save an African child, who suffered from a hole in his heart. This sort of stunt kills more Africans than it saves.

As the self-appointed Queen of Hearts pointed out, her presence was intended to raise the profile of Chain of Hope, the charity which flew seven-year-old Arnaud Warnbo from Cameroon to Britain for the opera-tion, and so generate funding through private donations.

Fair enough. But the Princess used the medium of television to appeal to an innate sentimentalism in the Western viewer which has created the agony industry continuum. In the long run, this will cause the greatest possible pain to the greatest possible number of Africans. Breaking this cycle would mean replacing show-business with a harder-headed "cruel

to be kind" philosophy.

The continuum is very simple. It goes like this: disaster strikes (in the form of starvation, poor or collapsed government, or most often civil war); aid agencies see a need to "help" civilians; they rush to the aid of the needy, tracked by the lenses of the mass media; vigurary heals have mass media; viewers back home are moved to donate, and the aid agen-

cies' budgets swell. What is wrong with that, if lives are saved? Nothing, but the agony industry continuum does not stop there. Arnaud was flown out of Cameroon because no medical facilities exist for his treatment in the country, and if they had, he would not have been able to afford them. As in most other African nations, hospitals in Cameroon are understaffed filthy asylums of last resort, where patients share beds and needles because their governments are too inefficient and corrupt to care about the people. So we do it for them. The Princess's appearance at Arnaud's operation will generate money for his charity and lessen the need for Cameroon's government to get its healthcare

system in order. Soon these financial, medical, or food aid donations rise to such levels that they become national resources. squabbled over by politicians and fought over by warlords.

The worst examples of this obscenity have been in Somalia, Rwanda and Zaire. In 1992, a short famine in Somalia caused by civil war erupted into a plague of starvation. The famthe warlords, because the International Committee of the Red Cross and other agencies, under the glare of the TV lights, would pay any price to feed Somalis, in a year in which domestic food production was in surplus. The Red Cross and other agencies allowed themselves to become one of the principal sources of funds for the warlords, and a cause of the famine.

Spending \$100,000 a week on protection" in Mogadishu, the Red Cross gave the warlords a financial incentive to maintain starvation at the highest possible level. As a result, 350,000 Somalis died. Far fewer might have perished if the famine had been ignored entirely.

n 1994, a million Tursis and political moderates were slaughtered in Rwanda, at a rate of 37,000 a day, mostly out of sight of . the television cameras. Their Hutu murderers, fearing retribution, then fled into Zaire (in full view), where there has been no attempt at the politically tricky task of arresting and

trying the genocidal ringleaders.
Instead, the Hutus in exile have received \$2.5 billion in aid (thanks to the media). This works out as a gift to each one of them of \$400 a year double their usual per capita income The money is being used to finance their rearmament, before an invasion aimed at finishing off the last of the Tutsis back home. Donor money might have been better spent arming the Tutsis to protect themselves, and on separating ordinary Hutus from

their evil leadership. In Ethiopia, the number of people facing starvation in the Ogaden rises by about 100,000 a year because they breed in famine camps, where they are fed by aid workers because the land cannot sustain them. Soon the one million souls originally in danger

will have swelled to twice as many. Some aid organisations, notably Care and Medecins sans Frontières, are aware that their often brave and noble efforts serve only to take the problem of serving their populations from the shoulders of Africa's leaders. Or that their resources become the fuel for African war-engines: money, food and medical supplies are what warlords fight for.

But such admissions are rare, because they require the nerve to refuse to help people when that very help might lead to greater agony. Someone should support the agony industry as it tries to break the continuurs. by exposing it on television.

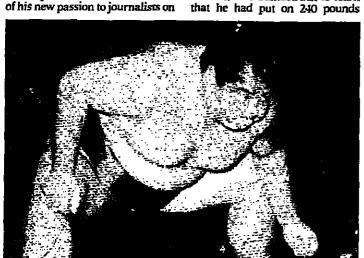
If it is publicity that the Princess of Wales wants, or even a "role", her energies could be put to better use in using her gigantic fame in campaigns to reduce Third World populations, to oust bloodthirsty warlords, or in taking a stand against regimes which mean that boys like Arnaud cannot be treated at home.

American sumo

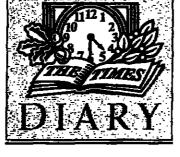
SUMO WRESTLING'S great bottom-wobblers have a new fan. After his recent state visit to Japan, President Clinton is smitten with the sport. Never one to indulge his passions by halves, whether wolfing pork ribs or reading thrillers, the President has taken to watching sumo on cable television for up

to three hours at a time. En route from Japan to Russia for last week's heads of state meeting, Clinton laid out the basics Air Force One. Assuming the wrestler's crouch, he explained how it lowered one's centre of gravity. The secret to the sport, explained the economist in the

President, "is a leverage deal". His enthusiasm was sparked by a meeting with two American wrestlers who have flourished in Japan. Akebono, at 7ft 6in and 36½ stone, is the largest sumo warrior in history. The President, no waif himself, was dumbstruck to learn



Heavy duty: but will the aides be up to it?



to reach his full wrestling weight. The President, doubtless drawing a political analogy, observed that little wrestlers can flip bigger ones out of the ring with speed and agility — but that doesn't happen very often. My advice to Clinton's aides is to smother this new passion. As our Washington correspondent reported yesterday, the President is prone to hauling aides out of bed to play cards for hours on end. Demands for late-night sumo bouts might prove a loyalty

Oueens' head

MY NOTE yesterday about Balliol College, Oxford, appointing a new Labour Master in Andrew Graham has been pipped by the latest news from Queens', Cambridge. There, they have chosen the Labour life peer Lord Eatwell as

John Eatwell, 51, a grammar school boy from Swindon, has taught economics at the university since 1970. He was an adviser to Neil Kinnock, helped to set up the Institute of Public Policy Research, a Labour think-tank, and is now party spokesman in economic affairs in the Lords. More promisingly, he is unusually interested in contemporary dance styles, and, when excited, boogies with extraordinary gusto.

Ladies please

MONDAY night saw Sir James Goldsmith, duce of the mono-policy Referendum Party, taking his message to the young ladies of the Kit Kat Club, an organisation for upwardly-thrusting women.

The talk was arranged privately through a daughter of Jim Slater, the financier and old friend of Goldsmith. The Kit Kattery will doubtless have proved fertile, not to say politically presentable, ground for Goldsmith's anti-European seed, as his party searches for candidates to fight the election.

• President Yeltsin may yet rue the death of Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen separatist leader killed last week, for he will be haunting his enemies from beyond the grave. He took the precaution of sending sensitive material on senior figures in the Kremlin to his friends abroad, with strict instructions that they should disseminate the information on his demise. As a former general in the Soviet Army, he had a few tales to tell.

Hijacked

THE MAN who navigated the Oueen safely through the skies for 15 years has a new mission: to steer safe passage for the Deputy Prime Minister through the turbulence of a general election. Dick Stanton, the former Adjutant of the Queen's Flight, is to serve Michael Heseltine as his parlia-

mentary agent.
In his time, Stanton — a solid, unflappable fellow - has flown



could complete the hat-trick of roy-al marriages," he says. "I have al-

with most of the Royal Family, in-

cluding the Prince and Princess of

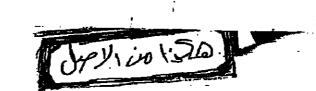
Wales and the Duke and Duchess

of York on their honeymoons.
"I am just sorry I retired before I

ways supported the Conservatives, but as a serving officer couldn't take part. I don't think the Queen had any inkling of my passion. I never discussed politics with her." Peel appals

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S shooting companion Earl Peel has Yorkshire's planners flapping like agitated wood-pigeons. After selling off his massive Gunnerside shooting estate to the duty-free magnate Robert Miller, he wants to develop a remote and dilapidated farm as the new family pile. But he has come up against bureaucrats from Richmondshire District Council, who are appalled by his proposed scheme for the park and house at Eelmire.

Councillors yesterday tramped out to view the heap. There were reservations about what he is proposing," says the planning committee's chairman, John Gill, delicately. "He's got quite ambitious plans for it. More than that I can't really say."





BOOK OF CHANCES

A new chronicle of errors is good reading in a turbulent week

John Major's policy towards Europe remains a precarious straddle between opposing positions. He highlighted his difficulties again yesterday to the Institute of Directors. arguing for a Britain fully involved yet lighting its corner, operating at the top table but occasionally opting out. It has been a bipartisan British negotiating stance since the Sixties, but in the light of developments abroad and within Mr Major's own party it is be-

coming increasingly difficult for him to hold. Mr Major dismissed critics who see Britain's links with Europe best confined to a common market as inhabitants of "cloud cuckoo land". He argued that Britain could not afford to be excluded from Europe's inner councils and that, from the inside, it could convince other states of the dangers of dissolving sovereignty. Mr Major may wish to save Europe by his exertions and example but as our economics editor, Anatole Kaletsky, points out on page 29, Europe is not going this Government's way. With Germany and France more likely with every week that passes to embrace a single currency, the Tory party grows daily more sceptical.

It is not only sceptics who think the current policy cannot hold. One of Britain's most eminent "Europeans" Sir Roy Denman, a former EC Ambassador to Washington, has published a book this week. Missed Chances, which examines the unhappy relations between Britain and the rest of Europe across this century, from the Moroccan crisis to the Major Government. It is a powerful polemic, particularly uncomfortable reading for those who believe that Britain can influence the Continent.

Sir Roy's diagnosis is that Britain, bedevilled by the past and incapable of shaking itself free from illusions, has seen its influence and interests damaged by the incompetence of its policy towards Europe. His prescription is submission before we are

forced to surrender - British acceptance now of the social chapter, a single currency and a single foreign and defence policy.

Written with verve and an eye for telling detail, the book chronicles a series of errors, from Munich to Maastricht, in the management of relations across the Channel. But its resoundingly federalist conclusions are undermined, not buttressed, by the evidence adduced of the incompatibility of Anglo-Saxon and continental systems.

Sir Roy argues that the attempts since the war to strike a balance between the demands of an insular domestic political culture and the need to engage with the emerging EEC have been misconceived. He records French suspicion at the time of British negotiations to enter Europe. De Gaulle believed that honest British negotiating aims were wrecking amendments designed to stop integration. In the French political élite, that suspicion persists still. Wise policies from the British Government, designed to strengthen European co-operation, such as enlargement to the East or analysis of the effects of a single currency on opters-out, are still viewed as emasculating measures from perfidious Albion.

That suspicion persists, partly, because British interests differ in important respects from those of our European partners. De Gaulle observed in 1963 that Britain was "insular and maritime, linked by trade to varied and remote countries ... industrial and commercial, hardly agricultural at all." That description of the nation's interests still holds. Sir Roy is keen on maximising British "influence" by increasing civil service penetration of the Commission and is prepared to trade independence for influence. But influence can be a chimera, bought too dear, while interests are real. Maintaining independence is still the most important way of protecting Britain's interests.

STRANGER THAN AUM

A doomsday cult's hold on Japan's brightest youth

In a Tokyo courtroom yesterday, a partiallysighted acupuncturist named Chizuo Matsumoto, alias Shoko Asahara, listened unmoved to a terrible rollcall, as the names were read out of 11 dead and more than 5,500 others who had survived the sarin gas attack on the Tokyo underground in March 1995 only after hospital treatment. The crimes of which he is accused include six other counts of murder and attempted murder and the illegal manufacture of drugs; but these crimes were mere harbingers of the poisoned apocalypse that he prophesied and which he and a dozen of his followers are accused of plotting to bring about. The alleged aim of Aum Shinrikyo, his murderous sect, was to seize control of Japan.

Superficially, the cult that he built from nothing into an empire worth well over \$200 million resembles other fanatical millennialist "religions" in the West. It used familiar techniques such as physical deprivation and extortion to secure the assets of its brainwashed recruits. But comparisons end there. Aum Shinrikyo was officially recognised as a religion, with assets listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange and a network of at least 37 companies and another 21 dummy corporations. Its laboratories experimented in a wide array of highly toxic nerve gases and biological weapons made in its own factories, as were guns and explosives. Its procurement networks, which by last year had stockpiled, in massive quantities, more than 100 chemicals for its weapons programmes, spanned the industrial world. It saw itself.

and functioned as, a state within a state. The soul-searching that the Aum case has prompted in Japan concerns, most of all, the cult's ability to attract Japan's best and brightest young people. An alarmingly high proportion of Aum's 10,000 followers were drawn not from the drop-outs of Japanese society, but from the middle-class graduates of its most prestigious universities. Through computer networks, Aum recruited huge teams of particle and applied physicists, organic chemists, mathematicians, astrophysicists, engineers and computer wizards to work on Asahara's planned Armageddon.

The obvious question is what persuaded young people with brilliant careers ahead of them to give up family ties and surrender their physical and mental liberty to the lunatic ambitions of a criminal doomsday cult. As the hearings drag out, possibly for five years, what will be on trial is not only the men in the dock, but the intensive Japanese educational system that discourages individualism and imposes homework loads that, by requiring study late into the night, isolates children socially throughout adolescence. Aum couched its evil agenda in a language of spirituality that contrasted with the materialism of modern Japan; it was different, and in that difference lay its attraction.

To many Japanese, equally shocking is the failure of the authorities to act earlier. As early as 1989, anxious parents grouped together to press charges of abduction. Aum murdered Tsutsumi Sakamoto, the lawyer acting for them, together with his wife and young son. That same year, Aum successfully applied for charitable tax status as a recognised religion. In June 1994, a "poisoning incident" at a town called Matsumoto killed seven and made 200 ill; police failed to follow up a tip-off that Aum was responsible. The cult's headquarters were sporadically raided, but systematically investigated only after the Tokyo sarin attacks. Japan is the most law-abiding of countries; the trauma of this failure to enforce the law will linger long after this bizarre trial has become history.

RING OF BROWN WATER

The return of the otter is an indicator of nature's renewal

The otter has come back to the lower reaches of the Thames. It has not been seen here for a generation, and there were fears that it had been wiped out by pollution, pesticides and the pressure of humans up the Thames valley. But spraints (old otter language for droppings) have been found on the river banks near Reading, indicating that otters have been there for at least two weeks in their breeding season. This confirms the evidence given by returning salmon and other fish, and even a short-lived seal, that the Thames is cleaner and that pollution is

dwindling. Spraints is a medieval hunting term. England's most mysterious mammal was surviving in the Thames long before the Romans rowed up it. The first English hunters loved their quarry before they killed it. And their first manuals of venery or hunting, such as The Book of St Albans, printed in 1486, distinguish between the deer, the boar, the fox and the otter with particular names of multitude and other jargon. Old huntsmen, however, did not deve out the otter. Its killers were modern pesticides, the removal of vegetation to build bankside homes for Reading commuters.

the dearth of fish and the superfluity of man. Otters have long been favourite symbols of an idealised Arcadia when the Thames supposedly ran silver between green banks. Flowing over that muddy bottom, it was never either silver or sweet. Falstaff could tease Mistress Quickly affectionately as an otter

The state of the s

otter heroes, and with some reason. For they are furry, handsome, intelligent and agile. Unlike almost all other mammals, otters are playful, even as adults. They frolic in grass,

But contrary to their cuddly nursery appearance, ofters would not have outlasted the wolf and the wild boar, and seen off the immigrant mink and the alien coypu, if they were not also extraordinarily efficient killers. They are the ferocious tigers of their ecosystem. They can swim for a quarter of a mile under water and run faster than a man

weasels, predators which can range as far as

from Reading to Oxford for their fishing. Being such slippery survivors, they will.

because she was neither fish nor flesh, "and a man knows not where to have her". British anthropomorphic books often had slide down river banks, and throw stones into the water, diving to catch them as they

sink. Females call their whelps in the spring with a maternal whistle. on dry land. They are sabre-toothed water-

Otters are making a come-back not just at Reading but throughout English rivers and other waterways. Last year they were reported at 687 sites, four times as many as there were 15 years ago. They are tough and resourceful old native animals. And British waters are becoming slowly cleaner by legislation, conservation and public concern about the environment. Nevertheless, our Reading otters would be wise to colonise upstream rather than down to London, at any rate until the millennium party is over.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Labour policies new and old

From Dr Kenneth Swinburne

Sir, Your leading article of April 19. "Looking-glass Labour", highlights three facts which are critical for the future of Britain: that the Shadow Cabinet is only about a third Blairite. that the Parliamentary Labour Party also has Blairites in the minority, and that fewer than half the activists and trade unionists who attend conference are converted to their leaders' way of thinking.

This means that the underlying power structure of "new" Labour is broadly hostile to Mr Blair, is imbued with the attitudes of old Labour, but is willing to operate under a false prospectus to win the general election.

Should Labour gain power, therefore, what will happen if Mr Blair, God forbid, falls under a bus?

Yours sincerely, KENNETH SWINBURNE, 16 Foxhill Crescent, Weetwood Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire. April 20.

From Mr R. L. Clifford

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky is not correct in his assertion that the days are long gone when socialists believed that capitalism exists to expropriate the justly earned fruits of labour ("How Labour would try to change the ways

of business", Business, April 18). Capitalism still seeks to employ as few people as possible for as small a reward as the employer can get away with. All the transitions called "privatisation" have demonstrated that

nothing changes.
I think Mr Kaletsky may have confused socialism with the beliefs of new Labour, which are, of course, not the same thing at all.

Yours faithfully, R. L. CLIFFORD, 25 Deben Drive, Sudbury, Suffolk.

From Mr Nigel G. Meek

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky (article, April 19) quotes a Labour Party adviser asking Why was the Prussian Army better than the Italian Army?" The answer is simple: a rigidly hierarchical and authoritarian society, which inculcated in its citizens, from cradle to grave, an ethos of deference and blind obedi-

If this is the model upon which "new Labour" is to be based then it seems remarkably similar to "old Labour* socialism: top-down direction, contempt for individual choice and a devastating erosion of personal responsibility.

Yours faithfully, N. G. MEEK,

58 Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley, Kent. From Mr Gerald Kaufman, MP for

Manchester, Gorton (Labour) Sir, "It is ridiculous to compare Blair

to Gaitskell", writes Woodrow Wyatt (April 23). Quite right. Gaitskell tried to dump Clause Four of the Labour Party's constitution and

failed. Blair decided to dump Clause Four and succeeded. Gaitskell made advance commitments on tax which proved disastrous. Blair refuses to make advance

commitments on tax and demonstrates prudence. In his first and only general election as leader of the party, Gaitskell led Labour to a landslide defeat. In his first general election as party leader,

Blair will lead Labour to the first of a series of victories. Yours sincerely. GERALD KAUFMAN. House of Commons.

From Mr Michael Smith

April 23.

Sir, Why does Mr Mawhinney continue to expect us to believe that the Labour Party is the party of high taxation ("Prescott tells Short to toe line or resign", report, April 22)? It is certainly true that levels of income tax have come down under the Conservatives; but most Britons under this Government are mentally unable to determine how much tax they are actually paying today because they are paying indirectly.

Indirect taxation is a wicked instru-ment of fiscal policy because it penal-ises everyone — including so-called middle-income earners. It is particularly insidious because it attacks the poor and families of all but the very nighest income brackets, who are struggling to bring up children to support the next generation.

Whilst public ignorance of government taxation levels is clearly an advantage to Mr Mawhinney, he should not assume that the public will remain as ignorant of Conservative tax promises as they were in the last election. Let there be no mistake: there is only one party of high (and unfair) taxation and that is the party in government to-

Yours sincerely, MICHAEL SMITH, 37 High Oak Road, Ware, Hertfordshire. April 22.

From Mr R. C. Littlefield

Sir, Now that it looks as if we might get a Labour government before too long, can you suggest what type of products I should begin to stockpile? Yours faithfully,

R. C. LITTLEFIELD, 3 Welbeck Close.

Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire.

With Kenwood's interests at heart

From Mr George Levy and Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC

Sir, In your reports concerning the Friends of Kenwood AGM (April 15 and 18) Sir Jocelyn Stevens, Chairman of English Heritage, appears to ques-tion our credentials. Certain relevant facts should be placed on record regarding our status for expressing opinions.

In 1985, at the time of the abolition of the GLC, the Government made it clear that it wished English Heritage. as an administrative trustee of the lveagh Bequest, to have an independent liaison group with them, repre-senting the interests of the Friends of Kenwood and the other London historic house museums. The terms of reference for its ten members were "to liaise with English Heritage on matters of public concern affecting the management and organisation of the Lon-don Historic House Museums".

Sadly, Mr Julius Bryant, Director of Collections at English Heritage. does not mention in his letter of April 22 that until very recently English Heritage not only continued the GLC's excellent "administrative centre for the Historic Houses Division" at Kenwood but strengthened it by a specific Museums Division, also based there.

It is precisely English Heritage's decision to dismantle that division, substituting it with a managerial team in Oxford Street, with a curator only visiting Kenwood on average twice a week, that is the reason for all our con-

It is ironic that at the present moment, because of the Friends' unanimous view that there should either be a curator based at Kenwood or, at the very least, that English Heritage's director of collections should have authority over it, that Sir Jocelyn Stevens

has forbidden his staff to even communicate with the liaison group. We very much regret that Sir Jocelyn has sought to personalise our attempt to express these serious con-

cerns felt by so many of those who

have the interests of Kenwood at heart

and who fear for the future care of the

collection. We can see no reason why, with goodwill, sensible and civilised discussion, these fears could not be allayed. We therefore hope that Sir Jocelyn will find it possible to restore the happy relationship which has so long obained between ourselves, English Heritage and its staff.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE J. LEVY Chairman, London Historic House Museums Liaison Group and Friends of Kenwood). JEREMY HUTCHINSON (Chairman, London Historic House Museum Trust, 1986-1993). The Iveagh Bequest, Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, NW3. April 22

From Mr Jacob Simon

Sir, In place of the vision of the last 50 years with an active curator at Kenwood and an ongoing exhibition programme, what does English Heritage offer? On recent form, room closures, staff cuts, an absentee curator and key pictures removed from display.

And the future? More "revenue earning activities" was the promise of English Heritage's regional director at the recent AGM of the Friends of Kenwood; hence a second shop and attempts to make the house more lettable at the expense of its historic integrity. Is it appropriate, by the way, to hold parties in rooms hung with some of the nation's finest Old Master

What is now required for Kenwood are independent trustees who put the house and its collections first, either with national museum funding status, as at the Wallace Collection, or independent charitable trustees, as at Dulwich Picture Gallery.

Yours faithfully, JACOB SIMON (Assistant Curator, Kenwood, 1973-83). 59 College Cross, N1. April 23.

Human rights reform

From Sir Edward du Cann

Sir. The news that the European Community cannot accede to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (Law Report, April 16) coincides with the Lord Chancellor's timely visit to Strasbourg seeking reforms of the European Court of Human Rights (re-

There is some impatience in Britain at what Sif Michael Davies Calls "the wilder excesses" of the court (letter, April 17: see also letter, April 22). This impatience, sometimes merited, sometimes not, should not be allowed to obscure the significance of the Convention and its achievements.

The Convention stemmed from the niversal wish after 1945 to provide a bulwark against totalitarian regimes and the continuing advance of communism. It was a statement of the principles of personal freedom and iustice for which Western European states traditionally stood. Britain not least: a proper reaction to the serious violations of human rights which were the tragedy of Europe during the Second World War. Reforms may well be necessary in the European court, but the need for

the Convention as a declaration of intent on the part of contracting parties is undeniable. Human rights are too often violated and in too many countries, not least in Europe itself, as we have so sickeningly observed in Yugo-The Convention is also an essential

protection for individuals who, sadly, may find it difficult or impossible to obtain justice from their domestic courts — even in Britain, It is shaming that the European court has ruled against British justice more often than against any other signatory of the Convention.

Guarantees of human rights are only valuable when they are enforceable in national law. It should be a prime aim of British foreign policy to press other nations to sign the Convention and of domestic policy to assimilate the Convention into British

Yours faithfully, EDWARD du CANN, Il Barton Street, SWI. April 22.

Ownership of FT

From Sir Geoffrey Owen

Sir, William Rees-Mogg ("Serve the readers, not the institutions", April 22) criticises Pearson's ownership of the Financial Times as unadventurous, citing among other things the failure to buy The Times and The Sunday Times when they were available.

An alternative view is that the commercial success of the FT (in marked contrast, say, to The Times) reflects Pearson's wise decision to build on its strengths as a specialist newspaper and not to expand by acquisition.

Opinions may differ about the im-

pact of interventionist proprietors on editorial quality, but it can hardly be denied that Pearson's consistent and supportive style of ownership allowed the FT to establish a position in the world market, based on the excellence of its reporting and analysis, which is

envied by other newspaper groups.

This was not the product of weak management, but an aggressive and well executed response to a commercial opportunity.

Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY OWEN (Editor, Financial Times, 1981-90). London School of Economics and Political Science Houghton Street, WC2

Birds in decline

From Mr O. C. Carruthers

Sir, Your checklist of the decline in the numbers of certain British song-birds (report, April 18) was hardly surprising. Have you matched it against the increase in the number of birds which might prey upon the declining song-

Possibly not all the numbers are available, but general observation leads me to believe in an increase in crows, magpies and jays - not to mention the grey squirrel. Research might show a correlation.

Yours faithfully, OLIVER CARRUTHERS. 25 Beacon Hill, N7. April 18.

Steam heat

From Mrs Elizabeth Battrick

Sir, In view of the reassessment of archaeological evidence from the old palace of Whitehall (report, April 16; letter, April 20) it is perhaps interest-ing to note that Henry VIII was not the only one to enjoy a Turkish bath in the Tudor era. The Company of Mines Royal of

Keswick, a German firm licensed by Queen Elizabeth to engage in copper mining, records in its accounts the building of a men's bathroom in March 1569. John Fisher of Keswick had the contract, which included digging the foundations and paving the floor. The men were to repay the expense out of club money and fines. A contemporary historian, Fynes Morison, notes "the use of Bathes is frequent in Germany ... They have publike Stones or hott houses in each

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH BATTRICK. Skiddaw Cottage, Vicarage Hill, Keswick, Cumbria

Uncoordinated

From Mr Alan Blyth Sir, It is odd that Sir John Burgh

should choose this of all moments (letter. April 19) to draw attention to his National Opera Co-ordinating Committee when this very week Covent Garden and English National Opera (ENO) are presenting the same opera, Tosca — a prime example surely of a lack of co-ordination among our subsidised companies.

Yours faithfully, ALAN BLYTH, 22 Shilling Street Lavenham, Suffolk. April 21.

Business letters, page 29

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Second thoughts on BBC 'Thought'

From Canon Michael Saward

Sir, You report today that three wellknown clergy are to be dropped from the BBC's "Thought for the Day" for offering comments that are "too simplistic" on political issues. Nearly ten years ago I was dropped from the same team for being "too religious" in the thirty or so pieces which I did.

Shortly before my demise I saw a memo on a BBC staff noticeboard which, in effect, instructed the programme-makers to change "Thought for the Day" into a "thought about today's news". I pointed out to a senior BBC executive that this would force speakers into the area of controversial political and ethical issues and that this would, in due course, lead to a demand for the "Thought" and its Thinkers to be dropped for being "too politically controversial".

My prediction has been fulfilled. It is an open secret that many in the BBC would love to get rid of "Thought" altogether. They have succeeded in reducing its length from its original five minutes or so to half that time. The latest move is merely the next stage on its road to extinction.

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL SAWARD. o Amen Court, EC4.

From Mr M. D. Varcoe-Cocks

Sir, Your editorial today, calling for more of the spiritual rather than temporal in the Today programme's Thought for the Day slot, ignores the real question: what is this "22minute moral or religious meditation" doing in the middle of what is otherwise a news programme? I have no objection to programmes on religious or moral issues, but would be sur-prised if The Moral Maze or a Sunday service was interrupted by a news bulletin except in an emergency.

I was amused to learn from your reporter that this slot is "popular": its onset has always been my cue to shave, shower or turn for a few minutes to another station for continued

Yours faithfully. M. D. VARCOE-COCKS. 5 Brackenbury Road, W6. April 24.

Rail franchises

From the Director of Passenger Rail Franchising, Opraf

Sir, Sue Cameron's article today, "Arm's length, but still too hands on". argues for "a clearer and more open finition of responsibilities" b ministers and appointed officials. This is exactly what exists in the case of railway franchising. The Secretary of State can give me instructions and guidance, which are public; and I am accountable for how I work within them. This has worked well: ministers have respected the boundary line and I work closely with them on the many areas where our responsibilities over-

I determined three years ago that I would set up Opraf, the contractual arrangements for the passenger railway and the process for selling franchises, so that they would work well; and then hand over to a successor for a more steady-state management role. Ms Cameron is wrong to suggest that civil servants decided "I had to go". I have always been clear about my in-tentions and I kept ministers informed well in advance of my public state-

Within the last month I have announced the award of a further four franchises. Each one has demonstrated value for the taxpayer and improving service for passengers. Recent press coverage suggests that people are now beginning to recognise that I will have reached the targets I set myself by the time I leave in the autumn.

Yours faithfully. ROGER SALMON, Franchising Director, OPRAF (Office of Passenger Rail Franchising), Golding's House 2 Hay's Lane, SEI. April 23.

Conduct unbecoming

From Mr Jason Amesbury Sir, Do Mr Giles Coren and Sir Hardy Amies ("The truth about Tony Blair's legs". April 19) consider if the behaviour of a gentleman to go around looking up other fellows' trouser legs?

Yours, JASON AMESBURY, J. Amesbury & Co (Bespoke shoemakers), 32 Elder Street, El. April 19.

Services' pecking order From Mr J. D. B. Read

Sir, The Royal Navy used to hold that one difference between the Services (letter, April 22) was illustrated by the jerseys worn at Twickenham for the Army-Navy game. The Army were reputed to play in red so that their blood would not show: the Navy turned out in blue for the same reason.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY READ, Downlands, Workhouse Lane, East Meon, Petersfield, Hampshire.



COURT CIRCULAR

staff and patients of the Churchill Hospital, attended a Reception given by the People of Churchill, and subsequently visited Fort Prince of Wales on the Churchill River. His Royal Highness this afternoon

arrived in Winnipeg. Manitoba, and was received by the Honourable W. Yvon Dumont, the Lieutenant

Following the official arrival cere-

mony, The Prince of Wales attended a Reception for Members of the Leg-

sketchion for vicinities of the Legislative Assembly in the Rotunda of the Legislative Building.

His Royal Highness this evening amended a Dinner given by the Premier of Manitoba at the Westin

April 24: The Princess of Wales, Patron, The Commonwealth Society for the Deaf, this morning received Brigadier John Davis (Chief Exec-utive) at Kensington Palace.

April 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, this afternoon visited Knowle Church of England Junior and Infant School, Knowle,

Her Royal Highness was received by Mr Bruce Tanner (Deputy Lieutenant of the West Midlands).

April 24: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the Black Country Museum, this morning opened the cast iron houses at the Museum, Tipton Road, Dudley, and was received on arrival

by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the West Midlands (Mr Robert

Taylor).
Afterwards His Royal Highness visited Soho House, Soho Avenue. Handsworth, and subsequently vis-

ned the Jewellery Quarter Discovery Centre, 77-79 Vyse Street, Hockley.

Birmingham.
Later The Duke of Gloucester visited the Castle Vale Housing Action Trust to celebrate the rebuild-

ing of the central area of Castle Vale and to launch the Castle Vale

The Duchess of Kent this evening attended a charity concert in aid of the Passage Day and Night Centre, at the Royal Festival Hall, South Bank.

April 24: Princess Alexandra was represented by the Hon Str Angus Ogilvy at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Viscount Watkinson which was held today in St Mar-

garet's Church, Westminster Abbey.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

London SEI.

Hotel, Winnipeg.

KENSINGTON PALACE

WINDSOR CASTLE April 24: The President of Mongolia and Mrs Tsezelmaa visited The

Her Majesty held a Council at

There were present the Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President), the Viscount Cranborne (Lord Privy (Baroness in Waiting), the Rt Hon Michael Howard MP (Secretary of State for the Home Department) and State to the Fronte Department of the Rt Hon Sir George Young, Bt, MP (Secretary of State for Transport).

Mr Nigel Nicholls was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP had an audience of The Queen before The Queen and The Duke of

Edinburgh gave a Dinner Party at which The Prince Edward and The

Princes Margaret, Countess of Snowdon were present. The following were invited: His Excellency the High Commissioner for Namibia and Mrs Nghiwete, the Right Reverend Cormac Murphy O'Connor, Mr and Mrs Robin Cook, the Lord Belstead, the Lord and Lady Deedes, Professor Sir Martin and Lady Pearse, the Very Reverend and Mrs Patrick Mitchell and Mr and Mrs Manuel College.

The Duke of Edinburgh this after-noon attended the Thames Salmon Trust's Luncheon at Fishmongers' Hall. London EC4.

Hall. London ECA.

The Queen was represented by the Lord Lucas of Crudwell (Lord in Waiting) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Viscount Watkmson (a former Cabinet Minister) which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster today.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE April 24: The Princess Royal, President of Patrons, Crime Concern, this dent of Patrons, Crime to Contern, under morning launched the Portsmouth Safer Cities Project on board HMS Warrior Her Majesty's Naval Base Portsmouth, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieumenant of Hamp-

Community Resources Centre, Birmingham. The Duchess of Gloucester this Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).
Her Royal Highness later visited
the Young Men's Christian Association National Centre and opened the
Sir Alec Rose Sports and Activities
Hall at Fairthorne Manor, Curdridge, Southampton, Hampshire.
The Princess Royal this evening
attended a Charity Fashion Show for
the Zoological Society of London and
London Zoo, Regent's Park, London
NWI. afternoon attended the Lord Mayor's Fashion Show, in aid of St John Ambulance, at Mansion House, YORK HOUSE
April 24: The Duke of Kent. Grand
Master, this afternoon attended the
Annual Investiture of the United
Grand Lodge of England, at Freemasons' Hall. Great Queen Street,
London WC2. followed by dinner at
the Savoy Hotel. London WC2.
The Duckess of Kent this exercise.

ST JAMES'S PALACE April 24: The Prince of Wales this morning arrived in Churchill, Mani-

toba, and was received by the Honourable Gary Filmon (Premier of His Royal Highness witnessed the official signing of a Federal-Provincial Agreement creating the new Wapusk National Park at the Churchill Town Centre Complex. The Prince of Wales later visited

Royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will attend the Board of Management meeting and visit the offices and showrooms at 5 Portland Place, Wi, at IO.30: and will attend the cine Vice-Presidents' dinner at the Tate Gallery Liverpool, at 6.30. Princess Margaret, as President of the Guide Association, will give a reception for Queen's Guides at

censington Palace at 5.00. The Duke of Gloucester, as Trustee of exhibition at the Museum of Man-

The Duchess of Clourester will visit The Duchess of Gloucester will visit Easthoim School, Reeves Way, Peterborough at 12-30; will visit the International Children's Trust, 50 Willesden Avenue, at 1.25; will open new buildings at the Caverstede Nursery School, Paston, Peterborough, at 1.56; and will open the Iceni Unit at the County Hospital, Doddington, Cambridgeshire, at 3.15; The Duke of Kent will artend the final of the Donatella Flick conducting of the Donatella Flick conducting competition at the Barbican at 7.20. transpendent at the Barbean at 1/21. The Duchess of Kent will open the sports complex at St Edward's College, Sandfield Park, Liverpool, at 11.20: will open the paediatric intensive care unit and education centre at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, at 12.25: and will visit Scientific Hospital Sundies International Wayertree Supplies International, Wavertree Boulevard, Wavertree Technology

above reproach, fanilles children of God in a crooke

BIRTHS

deprayed generation, in ich you shine like stars in recked world. lippians 2: 15 (1928)

Birthdays today

Professor R.F. Boucher, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, UMIST, 56; Mr Eric Bristow, darts player, 39; Sir Robin Cater, former chairman, Distillers Company, 77: Mr Anthony Chris-topher, trade unionist, 71; Mr David de Peyer, lormer director-general. Cancer Research Campaign, 62: Mr frey Ellerton, former chairman, Local rey Elerion, former charman, total Government Boundary Commission for England, 76; Dr T.E. Faber, chairman, Geoffrey Faber Holdings, 69; Miss Ella Fitzgerald, jazz singer. 78: Dr John Fox, medical statisticia: 50: Lord Gladwyn, 96: Lord Hayter, 85; Sir Paul Judge, former director general, Conservatve Party, 47: Mrs general, Conservatve Party, 47: Mrs Janet King, former Governor, Holloway Prison, 46; the Earl of Lichfield, 57; Mr John V. Light, Rector, Edinburgh Academy, 48; Mr Ian McCartney, MP, 45: Mr David Machin, Under Treasurer, Gray's Inn, 72: Lady Marre, former chair-man, BBC and IBA Central Appeals Advisory Committee 76: Streeon man, BBC and IBA Cellifat Appeals Advisory Committee. 76: Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir Godfrey Milton-Thompson. 66: Judge Marian Norrie. 56: Mr Al Pacino, actor, 50: Judge Helen Paling, 63: Mr David Shep-herd, artist. 65: Lord Skidelsky, 57: Sir Evancis Genham Smith Terrane. Sir Francis Graham-Smith, former Str Prancis Cranam-Smith, former Astronomer Royal, 73: Mrs Linda Stone, former president, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 45: Mr Peter Sutherland, managing-director, Goldman Sachs International, 50; Mrs V.E. Suther-

Walking tour visits ten survivors of the Great Fire

Rare chance to see the City's churches

O City city, I can sometimes

Beside a public bar in Lower Thames Street, The pleasant wining of a And a clatter and a chatter

from within Where fishmen lounge at noon; Where the walls Of Magnus Martyr hold Inexplicable splendour lonian white and gold

IN THE 74 years since T.S. Eliot wrote The Wasteland, the City of London has altered unrecognisably (John Young writes). Fortunately most of its wonderful churches, such as St Magnus Martyr, have survived, and today and tomorrow there will be a rare opportunity for the public to visit
36 of the 39 which still stand,
several of which are seldom open.
Friends of the City Churches
have organised two day-long
walks which will take in all the wants winted will take it at the churches with the exception of St Mary Woolnoth which, as recently reported in *The Times*, is being restored: St Katharine Cree. closed for an episcopal inquiry; and St Ethelreda's, largely de-stroyed by an IRA bomb.

The tour also includes what is considered to be the finest historic synagogue in London: Bevis Marks, which reopened last Thurs-In the 17th century there were 103 churches within the Square Mile, of which 80 were destroyed or severely damaged in the Great Fire. Most were rebuilt under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren

and his pupils.

But a fresh wave of destruction took place when the Victorians ruthlessly replaced churches with office buildings. Luftwaffe bombs in the Second World War also exacted their toll, and just 23 Wren churches stand where once there were 51.

In the last half-century the City churches have been recognised and zealously cherished as one of Britain's great architectural treasures. They are notable not just for their graceful shapes contrasting with, and alas, usually over-



shadowed by their towering glass and concrete neighbours but also for their splendid interiors rich in carved woodwork, plasterwork and monuments. Ten are medieval survivors of the Great Fire, including St Andrew Undershaft, which Sir John Beijeman praised as the most stately in the City.

The almost complete disappear-ance of the residential population has compounded the problems of maintenance. Since 1952 the area has been reorganised into 22 parishes, some with more than one church, while II buildings have been designated Guild Churches in the care and protec-

tion of Livery companies. Only St Giles Cripplegate can claim a traditional congregation, supplied by residents of the Barbican, although St Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside, and St Bride's just off Fleet Street, have energetically pursued a pastoral role. Others attract worshippers to mid-week services but are locked and de-

serted on Sundays.

St Benet in Paul's Walk, the "Welsh" church, and St Peter Cornhill are open only by arrange-ment. St Sepulchre-without-Newgate and St Mary Aldermary are open between Harn and 2pm and Harn and 3pm on Wednesday and

the efforts of a group called City Churches Watch. St Dunstan-inthe-West is open from Tuesday to Friday. Encouragement has recently

come from the Open Churches Trust, founded two years ago by Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, which encourages churches to remain open for visitors by paying for the costs of guides and security.

The walk starts on both days at 10am from St Mary Aldermary. Watling Street, near Mansion House Tube station but can be joined at any point. The registra-tion fee is £5.

Memorial services

Viscount Watkinson, CH

The Queen was represented by Lord Lucas of Crudwell at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Viscount Watkinson, CH, held yes-terday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Albey, Princess Alexan-dra was represented by the Hon Sir Anoms Doiley.

Angus Ogilvy.
Canon Donald Gray, Chaplain to
the Speaker, officiated and the Rev prayers. Mr David Spicer, son-inprayers. Mr David spacer, son-in-law, read the lesson and the Hon Mrs Barrie Musgrave, daughter, read from John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. Sir Adrian Cadbury gave

The Lord Chancellor attended. The Prime Minister was represented by Lord McColl of Dulwich, the Speaker by Mr Michael Morris, Chairman of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker, Sir Edward Heath, KG, MP, by Lord Aldington and the Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex by Mr Philip Stroud. Among others present

were:
Viscouniess Walkinson (widow), the Hon Mrs David Spicer (daughter), Mr Rowan Musgrave, Miss Mary Spicer, Miss Joanna Spicer, Mr and Mrs Rupert Jarvis and Altee Spicer, Mr and Mrs Grandchildren), Mr and Mrs W Roms, Mr Alton Woodal, the Rev Anthony Kennedy, Mr Michael V Casey, Mr and Mrs Peter Langmead. The Earl of Lauderdale, Viscount Caldecore, Viscount Long, Viscount Tonypandy, Viscount Whitelaw, KT, CH, Lady Aldington, Lord Bancroft, Lord Boardman, Lord Boyd-Carpenter, Lord Carr of Hadley, Lord Carrington, KG, CH, and Lady Carrington, Lord Clark of Kempsen, Lord Colberook, Lord Elliott of Morpeth, Lord and Lady Erroll of Hale, Lord and Lady Fraser of

Riimorack. Lord Lane of Horsell. Lord Motilstone, Lord Murray of Epping Forest, Lord Newall, Lord Ort-Ewing. Lord Plummer of St Marylebone. Lord Plummer of St Marylebone. Lord Pym. Lord Shaw of Northstead.

Mr John Billen, MP. the Hon Peter Brooke. CH, MP, Mr Aubrey Jones. Str Cranley Onslow, MP. and Lady Onslow, MP. James Ramsden, Sfr Nicholas Scort. MP. Sir Charles Ferguson of Rilkerran. Lady Cadbury, Sir Michael Craig Cooper. Sir Hugh Cublit, Sir Oscar and Lady Deville. Sir Alexander and Lady Dutie. Sir George Edwards, OM. Sir Campbell Fraser. Sir Recy Geddes. Sir Ronald McIntosh. Sir Michael Neubert. MP. Sir Michael Meubert. MP. Sir Michael Mp

ments).

Major K G Adams, Mr Peter August.
Mr Robert G Beldam, Mr Hartley
Booth, MP, Mr and Mrs Basil E S
Coilins, Mr C H Dickens, Mr J H P
Draper, Mr and Mrs James Forbes, Mr
Harry Greenway, Mr Mr J Hawke, Mr
Edward James, Mr R J Kingsbury, Mr G
E Knight, Mr Neil Mills, Mr Anthony
Nelson, MP, Mrs S Norris, MajorGeneral C E Page, Mr and Mrs M
Pickard, Mr John Smoker, Mr B J F
Theobald-Hicks, Mrs Eleanor E
Thomas, Mr Paul Williams, Mr
Michael Wison.
Mr A J Beale (European Marketing
Confederation), Mr Dominic Cadbury
Chairman, Cadbury Schweppes) and
Mrs Cadbury with Mr R A Henderson;
Mr Maurice Hunt (deputy DirectorGeneral, CBS), Mr Geoffrey Maitland
Banki and Mr I R W Elliot (Leader of
Conservative Group, West Sussex
County Council with Mr Michael
Holdsworth (County Secretary).

Mr A.C.W. Norman

A memorial service for Mr Antony Charles Wynyard Norman, OBE, was held on Wednesday, January 10, at St Clement Danes. The Rev Peter Bishop officiated, assisted by the Rev Richard McLaren. Sir Mark Nor-man, Bt, and The Lord Hastings read the lessons. Mr Michael Denison gave an address. Among those present were: Mrs Antony Norman (widow), Lady Norman, Mr and Mrs Desmond Norman, Mr and Mrs Torquil Norman, The Hon Mrs Barbara Norman, Mr and Mrs Nigel Norman, Mr Rory Norman, Mme Stanislas Aubertin, The Lord and Lady Abertonnay, The Hon Michael McLaren, Mrs Martin McLaren, Mr Kevin Burke, Mr and Mrs Paul Gunn, Miss Pauline Gunn, Mr And Mrs Marcus Gona, Miss Pouline Gunn, Mrs Richard Fenning, Miss Nicola Packman, Mr Jereny Norman, Mrs Peter Rickett, Mr Charles Egerion Warburton, Mr and Mrs George Pope, Miss Emily Pope, Miss Arabella Pope.

Jane Lady Abdy, Mr and Mrs Peter Lady Abdy, Mr and Mrs Peter

Jane Lagy Adory, Mr and Mrs reer Adams. The Earl and Countess Alexander of Tunis, Mrs Ian Bailey, Mrs James Baker. The Viscountess Bearsted. The Hon Sir Citive Bossoru, Mrs James Baker. The Viscountess Bearsted. The Hon Sir Citive Bossoru, Mr and Mrs George Bruderick, The Dowager Lady Delves Broughton. Mr and the Hon Mrs Edmund Brodenell. Mr Trancis Burne, Mr Peter Butler. Colonel and Mrs Grendish. Mr Charles and Mrs Cell. The Hon Charles and Mrs Cell. The Comtesse de Chambrun. The Hon Lady Cooper-Key, Mrs Craig Smith, The Lord Collen of Ashbourne. Group Captain John Cunningham. Mr and Mrs Edward Davies-Gilbert. Mrs Michael Denison. Sir Dermor and Lady de Trafford. The Hon Lady de Zulueca. Mr and Mrs Philip de Laszlo. Mrs Patrick de Laszlo. Mr and Mrs Cooley Doughty. The Lady Duncan-Sandys. Mr N. Durlacher. Mrs Coulouthros Embiricos. Mr and Mrs Ian Farqubar, Mr and Mrs William Fisher. Brigadier General Denis FibGerald, Mrs Donald Fraser, Mrs Willy Freund. The Lady Freyberg, Mr and Mrs Anthony Gaillers-Prait. Prince Emanuel Gallzine. Mrs Philip German-Ribon, Colonel and Mrs Gerard Leigh. Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, Mrs Derek Hague, The Lady Hastings. Mr and Mrs Grand Leigh. Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, Mrs Derek Hague, The Lady Hastings. The Lady Hillfe. Mr Charles Larking. Colonel David Laurie, Mrs Robert Lea. The Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, Ruth Countess Idoyd George of Dwyfor, Ruth Countess Lloyd George of Dwyfor, Ruth Countes Siloyd George of Dwyfor, Ruth Countes Siloyd George of Dwyfor, Ruth Countes John Millar, Major and Mrs Murrough O'Brien. The Lord and Lady Murrough O'Brien. The Lord and Lady

Smoothe, Mr Michae, Mradin, The Hori James Stourion, Sir Richard and Lady Termington. Mr. and Mrs Ben Tyler, Baron Vaes, The Hori Michael and The Hori Mrs Vaughan, Lady Villers, Mrs Diana Walker, Mr and The Hori Mrs Charles Wilson, Mr John Wolstenholme Kimmer and many other friends.

Mr David Tandy

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr David Tandy, Partner at Tutnuss Sainer Dechert, was held yesterday at the Temple Church, Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated. Mr Paul Clark read the lesson and Mrs Shan

Lord Airedale

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Airedale will take place in the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, Palace of Westminster at 12.15pm on Tuesday. May 14, 1996. Those wishing to attend are re-quested to apply for tickets to: Miss Celia Thomas, Liberal Democrat Whips Office, House of Lords, SWIA

Professor the Hon Sir John Golding, OJ A Memorial Service for Sir John Golding will be held at St Barrholo-mew-the-Great on Tuesday, April 30, at 2.30pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.H. Airlewood and Miss S.J. Stepher

The engagement is announced bethe engagement is announced be-tween John, younger son of Captain and Mrs Peter Airlewood, of Brookend House, Moreson in Marsh, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Val Stephenson, of Henleaze, Bristol

Mr A.S. Batley and Miss S.L. Gam The engagement is announced be-tween Andrew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs A.H. Barley, of Bramley.

Hampshire, and Sharon, elder daughter of the late Mr K.A. Gain and of Mrs Gain, of Rowledge,

Mr L.M. Bretherton and Miss C.J. Stocking The engagement is announced be-tween Luke, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Bretherton, of Holland Park, London, and Caroline, daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs Dan Stocking, of Chorleywood, Hertionishire.

Mr M.R.D. Cornell and Miss L.E. Gordon Lennox The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Brigadier and Mrs John Cornell, of Mariborough. Wilshire, and Lucy, daughter of Lord and Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox. of Chichester, West Sussex. Mr C.M. Curi

and Miss C.L. Tho and Miss C.L. Thompson
The engagement is announced between Christopher Martin, elder son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Curl, of Canterbury. Kent, and Charlotte Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs William Thompson, of Orping-

ion, Kent. Mr J.A. Davis and Miss L.A. Locke

and Miss L.A. Locke
The engagement is announced hetween John. son of Mr and Mrs J.R.V.
Davis. of Calne, Wittshire, and
Lindsey, daughter of Mr and Mrs
N.A.S. Locke, of Mortimer.
Berkshire. Mr J.F.M. Findley

Mr J.F.M. Findlay
and Miss S.E. d'Angihau
The engagement is announced between James, son of Dr and Mrs John
Findlay, of Micklethwaite, Bingley,
West Yorkshire, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs John d'Angihau, of Aldham, Colchester, Essen Mr N.A. Lightning and Miss J.C. Pross

The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr and Mrs Alec Lighming, of Duxford, Cambridge-shire, and Joanna, younger daughter of Sir Ian and Lady Prosser, of Dr R.A. Lione and Miss R.L. Whelan The engagement is armounced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.N. Lione, of Hornchurch, Essex, and Rachel, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Robert Whelan, of Comberton, Cambridge.

Comberton, Cambridge. Mr A.B. MacLeod and Miss LM. Boger

Dr and Mrs Richard Boger of

Steyning. West Sussex are delighted
to announce the engagement of their
younger daughter, focy to Breac,
elder son of Mr Iam Breac MacLeod.

of Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, and Mrs Ceridwen MacLeod, of Hampnon, Middlesex -----

Captain G.I.P. Osmond, RA, and Miss J.A. Halley
The engagement is amnounced between Geoffrey, son of Mr P.A. Osmond, of Harrow, and Mrs Joan

Osmond, of Faurrow, and reas Joan Osmond, of Kennington, London, and Joanne, youngest daughter of Mrs Dorothy Hulley, of Sheffield and the late Mr Genfrey Hulley. Mr D.T. Power and Miss C.J. Awre Françoise and Gerald Awre, of Bath,

Françoise and Gerzio Awre, of Bath, Somerset, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daugither, Catherine to Dunstan, son of Ursula and Geraid Power, of Altractam,

v 5 47 1

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Mr TJ. Regis and Miss J.S. Hemming The engagement is announced he-tween Thomas, son of Mrs Deirdre-Regis and the late Mr Torn Regis, of Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire, and Jessica, daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Hemming, of Little Carlton,

Intohisture.

Mr A.J.F. Sim
and Miss S.F. Godwin-Austen
The engagement is announced between Angus, son of Mr Campbell
Sim, of Four Elms, Kent, and Louisa
Harmer, of Applegarth, London, and
Susan, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Robin GodwinAustria, of Shallond, Surrey. Aureign of Shadfood, Surrey.

Mr G.A. Woodreffe and Miss S. Armsitage
The marriage will take place at noon,
on Saturday, April 27,
Margarer's Church, Peruhanat, of
Guy Alexander Woodroffe and Sara

Marriage ·

Commander B.H.C. Nation and Mrs G.J. Cameron ... The marriage took place yesterday, in London, between Commander Barry Nation and Mrs Jill Cameron.

School news Clifton High School, Bristol BSS 3JD

Bristol BSS 3JD
Term started on Tuesday, April 23,with Joanna Lawrence as Head Girt
and Elizabeth James and Kane White
as her Deputies, and ends with Rose
Day on Saturday, July 6. The Annual
Concert at St George's is on May 9;
the Senior School Play The House of
Bernarda Alba is on May 22 and 23,
and the Middle School Musical Alba
on June 25. 26 and 21. An Open
Afternoon for prospective materias Afternoon for prospective parents will be held on Wednesday, May 22;

Califord School

The Summer Term began yesterday, Manhew Grinham is the Captain of Maintew Grinnam is the Captain of Cricket. University Porums will be held on Friday. May 3 and Friday. May 10. The Ist XI will play the MCC on Wednesday. May 15. The Open Day will be on Sanurday, May 18 and the Summer Ball on Saturday, June 29. Term ends on Wednesday, July 3.

The Governors of North Foreland Lodge have appointed Miss Suc Cameron to be Headmistress with effect from September 1996 in succes-sion to Miss Diana Matthews who will retire after 13 years as Headmistress of the School, Miss Cameron is currently Headmistress of Downe

Port Regis Port Regis requests the pleasure of the company of all OPRs at luncheon on Sunday, June 30, 1996, to celebrate

contact the Headmaster's Secretary

Service dinner HMS President

Lord Howe of Aberavon. QC, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual reunion dinner of the HMS President RNVR and RNR Retired Officers' Association held last night onboard by courtesy of the comm Cosnett chairman, presided.

BIRTHDAYS

FLATSHARE

All BLATES.
Congratulations on your 30th Britishy today. Watting you many happy returns & hoping that today is special for you.

Olds Field Printing execution of Chiefer. At last fame, you name to print Much love So

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AN SLATER

Luncheons

Carbon Club Mr lan Lang. President of the Board of Trade and Secretary of State for or trade and secretary of Soute for Trade and industry, was the guest of horrow and speaker at a luncheon of the Political Committee of the Carlton Club held yesterday at the club. PPP healthcare group Sir Peter Gadsden, Chairman of the

Sir Peter: Gadsden, Chairman of the PPP healthcare group; presided at a huncheon held at Plaisteren's Hall yesterday after the AGM. The Lord Mayor. Alderman John Chalstry, and Alderman and Sheriff Sir Peter Levene were present. The speakers were the Lord Mayor, Sir Peter Gadsden and Mr Peter Owen, Group Chief Frentium Chief Executive.

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OTTERMENT

PLIGHTS

Marian

Finellers Company
Alderman Sir Paul Newall was the
principal guest at a Irway function
the Fuellers' Company held yesternlay
at Watermen's Hall. Mr Michael Bryer Ash, Master, presided and presented Sir Paul with the Honorary Freedom of the Company.

Dinner.

Earl of Landerdale The Earl of Landerdale enterta the Parliamentary Group for Energy Studies at dinner last night at the House of Lords. Mr George Kynoch, Minister for Industry and Local Government, Scotland, was the guest

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: King Edward II. reigned 1307-27. Caernarvan, 1284; Okwer Cromwell, Lord Protector 1653-58. Hundingdon, 1599; Sir Marc Isambard Brunel, engineer. Hacqueville, France, 1769; John Ke-ble, a founder of the Oxford Move-ment, Fairford, Gloucestershire, 1792; C.B. Fry, sportsman, Croydos, 1872.
Walter de la Mare, poet and novelist.
Charlion, Kent, 1873: Coglicino,
Marconi, physicist, Nobel laurente,
1909, Bologna, 1874.

DEATHS: Anders Celsius, inventor of the Centigrade thermometer. Upp film director, London, 1976.

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PERSONAL COLUMN

DEATHS DEATHS **DEATHS** DEATHS

HORT - On April 20th peacefully after a very short

MORT - On April 20th.
peacefully after a very short
limes, at her home of the
last 24 years, near Portman;
Pamels, aged 77. Previously
of The Sanctonry, Crediton,
Greatly loved mother of
Simon and grandmother of
Harriet and Boy. Funeral has
taken place quietly in
Portugal. Donations, if
desired, to Hunt Servants
Fund. Paraloes Cottens.

Fund, Parsioes Cottage, Bagendon, Cirencester GL7

MAHON - On 22nd April 1996. gracefully and pencefully Anthony Francis Mahon KCSO.. GCHS.. beloved insband of Rosaile. Greatly loved and loving insband: father; grandfather and friend. Requiem Mass at 8 Benedich Abbuy. Eathog on Monday April 29th at 11.30 am. Elgrand fest grant unto him. O Lord. St Anthony pray for him. Family flowers only, but if desired donations in his memory to Sarra international, c/o A. France & Bon. 45 Lamb's Conduit Siret. Landon WCIN 3NH, felt (0171) 405-4901.

WATHIAS - Marian Helan peacefully in Trowncidge on 23rd April in her 98th year, mother of Peter, sister of Kathleen, grandpother to Sam, Henry and Sophie and great-emphother of Siles.

MOVELL-SMITH - Rimon on 28th March at St Luke's Number Home, Oxford, aged 57. Memorial Service New College Chapel, Oxford, Saturday 11th May at 3 pm.

Nicholas and Caroline.
Caring grandisher to Alex.
Maianie. Natasha., Poppy.
Ben. Elliott and Joahua.
Wonderful stepfather to
Adrian and Sean. Much
loved and missed by ignify.
friends and collegues.
Service of thanksgiving at
Arundel Cathedral. Arundel.
West Susex. on Friday 3rd
May at 3 pm followed by
butist. Family flowers only
please but donations if
dealred for medical research
to Holland & Son. 16 Ash
Lane. Rustington. West
Lane. Rustington. West Lane, Rustington, West Sussex, 01905 713939.

Bowers only.

PLATT - Stanley after short these on 22nd April 1996, dearly loved bashand of Dorothy and father of Bathers and Roger. Funiral St. Mary's Church, High Street, Maidenbead, 1.30 pm, 30th April. Donations if desired to Themes Valley. Adventure Playsround for Handicapped Children C/o Thicket House. Cherry Garden Lane, Maidenbead. SL6 30E. No flowers plane. WILKINSON

IN MEMORIAM --WAR BARCH - Herry R.M.I. The Cheffiam. To his messory and to his comrades the ANZACS who fell at Gallinois 1915 and 1916.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES On April 25th 1956, John | Elizabeth (Bee). GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES HOWSE-WALLER - On April 25th 1946 at All Saints Church, Hove, Lt. Derck DSC, RN. to Elizabeth de Warrenne, Now Sevenceiss TN13 2AY.

WRLIAMS:STEER - Cn St Mark's Day 25th April 1946 in All Seint's Church, Wath-upon-Dearnet, the Rev. LM. Wittings to Muriet M. Steer. Now in Eweline, Oxfordshire, Deo Gratian. DOMESTIC & CATERING STITUATIONS AMSTRIA, Motivated chalet girl visualed urganity for this sum-ner. Nath job to help organite-cularing in a code and adjacent Out Code. Season May-October German amentum

Curson speaking on advantage. Tel:01989 740632 fax 740611. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES ETC

On Court Page £i 1.50 per line plus VAT. Please and Court Page amountements by post/flux for Mrs J. Neenan, Court & Social Advertising, Level 5, 1 Virginia Street, London & 1980. Tel: 0171 782 7347, Fax 0171 481 9313. Pleme include in all correspondence: a signature of either one of the parties concerned o a daysime and some telephone number and ad

tisements for the Court Page must be received two days prior to publication and are secepted subject confirmation.

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EYSOUTH - On 20th April 1996 at Queen Charlotte's Houghal, to Susan and Gary, Iwin sons. George Williams and Cherles Williams and Cherles Williams and Cherles Williams 19th 1996 at 2.10 pm at The Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, to Jonathen and Ashanii (nés Hotikerateky), a son, Josius Thomas Peter, a hrother for BALE - On 19th April 1996, to Jane (née Kehoe) and Matthew, a daughter, Jessica, a sister for Elemon. SEMERIA - On 12th April 1996, 20 Emma (née Wigalesworth) and Chris, a daughter, Sophie Georgina, a stoir for Evic Otivia. HARBHALL - On April 21st 1996 to Paula (Kidd) and Tim a daughter Anne Eksabeth (Annie).

emzaceth (Annie).

EMLLS - On Easter Sunday
7th Agril 1996, to Helen (nie
Foley) and Richard, a
beautiful son. William
Richard St. John. IOCHHEAD - On 21st April' 1996, to Lucy (née Stevenson) and Robert, a daughter, Anna Margaret, a Stovenson) and Robert. a daughter, Anna Mergaret, a sister for Hogh. MOULTON - On April 14th, to Comagn (nie Rees-Davies) and Thomas, a son, Otiver Charles Robert, a brother for Limits

PERMY - To Helen and Russell, a son, Charle Romell, born 14th April outh - On April 17th 1994 at St Thomas, London, h Alison (ade Swallow) and Christopher. a son PEZZOTTI - On April 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Alexandra (née Durazzano) Mondo, a son, Federico a brother for Ettere

VILLEMENVE - On April 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Amelie, a beautiful daughter, Causandra Celine Andree, thanks to Mr C. Naylor and the platf.

DEATHS AUSTIN BROWN - On April 21st at home John Austin Brown T.D. aged 91, Private

BAILEY - E. Lestie M.B.E. aged 80 years on 22nd April 1996 after a long finess. Beloved husband of Lynn. Sider of Aune, grandfather of Victoria and Carolyn-Fumeral Service at 2t Mary's Church. Warwick on Monday 29th April at 248pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, Douglions may be sent to Dr. High Research Fund. to Dr. Hiji's Research Fund. c/o Warwick Hospital, Lakin Road, Warwick, CV34 88W.

pencarally, at The Grange Nursing Home. Sherborne St. John, in her 90th year. Marry Conning (née Hartier), beloved wife of the late Raymond Henry Biggs. Funeral at the All Saints Church. Basingstoke, on Wednesday 1st May at Wednesday 1st May at 10.30cm.

BRUBH - On April 24th. peacetaily in hospital, Neil. dear wife of Harry. Puncras Service at Boutsemouth Cremetorium on Wednesday description of Wednesday May 1st & 12.15 pm. Family . Howers only, denations if desired for Golde Dogs for the Blind, may be sent c/o F.W. House & Sous, Fuzeral Directors, Lymingkon, Hants.

DEATHS CAHILL - Roger pencerully on April 20th aged 84 years, fortnerly of Longford, Beloved husband of Hamel, dearly loved father of Nicks and grandisther of Nicks Manra and Edward, Funeral Service at Oxford Crematorium, Headington, on April 30th at 12.30 pm. Plowers and enquiries to F.J. Wilson, Greenway, Haddenham, Bucks, (01844) 291200.

DILLIWAY - Peacefully in hospital Cicely Manjorle aged 92 years of Parkstone, Danset. Widow of Shewart Dilliway and dearty loved mother of Wendy, Joses, George and Noelle and a loving grandmother and great-grandmother.

Cremation at Poole Cremation on Friday 26th April at 1.30 pm. (No Crementation on Friency 200*
April at 1.30 pm. (No
mountains at her request).
Family flowers only.
Donations for the HNE may
be sent to Tapper Funeral
Service, 32-34 Parkstone
Hoad, Poole, Dorset.

DELL - On 19th April 1996 aged 90 Nancy Isabelle Cock Dill, widow of Brigadier Dannis Furions D.S.O. M.C. and of Field-Marshal Sir John Dill G.C.B. monetime Chief of the Impacial General Staff, mother of Sonia Hunterston, daughter of Henry and Isabelle Charrington and last surviving grandchild of Spencer Charrington M.P. Memorial service only at Badminton Church,

MALLANDAINE - John St. Quinton, peacefully at home on April 20th. Beloved father of Jenn and hunband of the late Edwinn. Funeral Service to be held at the Chilleron Crumstorium. Amerikam on Friday. April 26th at 11.30am. Family flowers only, doesdon if wished to the Salvation Army c/o Great Missenden Funeral Services, 106 Fligh Street, Grunt Missenden. Bucks., HP16 CBE.

MILLAR - Angus George. Suddenly, but peacefully, at home in Edinburgh on 23rd. April 1996. Angus George Millar, dear husband of Julia, father of James. Charies and Roderick, father-in-law of Kate and grandfuther of Hector. A service will be held in the Main Chapel at Mortonhall Crematorium, Edinburgh, on Wednesday ist May at 11 am to which all who knew him are invited. Family flowers only.

MUNRY - Mary widow of Dahya Munby died peacefully at home on Sunday 21st April 1996. She is grantly missed by James. Frances. Ratherine, Julian. Teresa. Chemism and her ten Grandchildren. Her toneral will be at Bhackhtars. St Giles, Oxford at 1.30 pm on Monday 29th April followed by burial at Wotvercole Cemetery. Any enquiries to Receive & Pain, 288. Ahingdon Road. Oxford, let: (01865) 242529. MEWTON - Waitar Lovis suddenly on 23rd April, dearly loved husband, father, grandfather and friend.

PAM: - On 19th April at home. Andrey in her 102nd year, beloved wife of the late Li. Colonel Michel Hacket Pain, mother of Wyndham and Andrew, grandmother of Nicholas and Simon and great-grandmother of Wyndham. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church. Branke, Surrey, at 2.30 pm Wadnesday 1st May. Flowers and enquiries to Pinnus Funeral Services, Mary Road, Golddord, tel. (01483) 274079.

PARK - Charles Kendall on 20th April. Much loved hutbend of Susan, father of Jonathan and Annabel and grandfather of Joshua. Cremation at Sheffield, followed by Thankagiving Service on Friday May 3rd at 2.20 pm at Al Saine Perish Church, Bakewell, Family flowers only.

PUGH - Brian Philips seacefully in hospital on 17th April 1996. Adored husband of Irene and widower of Natalie. Wonderfo loving father to Nicholas and Caroline. Critica grantisher to Alex

Sussey_ 01905 715959.

RATTRAY - Suddenby but peacefully on 25rd April. Major Peter Edward Campbell aged 70. Late 750 Gurkha Rilles. Beloved Hushand and Father. The fusernle service well be held at thereford Crematorium on Friday, 26th April. sti Hereford Crematorium on Friday. 26th April. sti 12.30pm. If desired donations for Weobley Health Centre may be sent to Dawe Bros., 115 Westfaling Speet, Hereford.

STERICKER - On April 22od 1996 peacefully Daphn Dorothea eged 79 years formerly of Liskey Tregreham, Cornwall Beloved wife of John (deed.) a deaty loved mother and grandmother. Private family grandsother. Private familier and, grandsother. Private family cremation service on Tuesday April 30th followed by Thanksgiving Service at 3-30 pm St Mary's Church, Biscovey, Enquiries (01726). 75869.

Wilkinson - Thomas Geoffrey, Lt-Col. hat D.L.L., of Calcigum Gurdens, SW3. On Monday 22nd April 1996, peacefully at King-Edward VII Hospital aged 30. Fibers! Service 2t Montains-Crematorium on Monday 29th April at 11.30 ma. Flowers to J.H. Kenyen, 49 Marious Hoad, W8, MEMORIAL SERVICES

NOWELL SANTH - A Service to communicate the life of Shnon Nowell-Smith who died on 28th March will be beld in New College Caupal, Oxford, on Saburday 11th March 2 mm

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SIR MICHAEL JOUGHIN

Sir Michael Joughin, CBE. chairman of the North of Scutland Hydro-Electric Board (later Scottish Hydro-Electric), 1983-93, died from a heart attack on April II aged 69. He was born on April 26, 1926.

A MAN of great charm, with exceptional gifts of personal leadership. Michael Joughin was one of northern cotland's best known businessmen. He led the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board with a sure political touch and fought its corner with

tenacity in the run-up to privatisation.

Joughin also gave devoted and tireless service to agriculture. He became well known to Grampian Television viewers as the original presenter of its farming programme.
Country Focus, where his ability to get to the nub of things and to express ideas in striking, pungent language was every bit as impressive as it proved in the boardroom. It was while working as a TV presenter that Joughin received what he later referred to as the best piece of advice he had ever had: Remember, that chap you are talking to is trying to de-bone a kipper."

Even up into his last years, Joughin was seldom out of the headlines. As chairman of his local community council, he had many jousts with the New Age community which he believed was swamping the village of Findhorn on the Moray Firth.

Michael Joughin was born in Devon and educated at Kelly College, Tavistock. At the age of 17 he joined the Royal Marines and as a young lieutenant witnessed the Japanese surrender of Penang. Later he flew as a carrier-based RM pilot and trained recruits for the Royal Marine Commandos. But when in 1952 he disched in the sea off Malta and, as he put it, 'hent an aircraft and bent a leg", he was invalided out.

Joughin took up farming at first but soon found that 700 acres of dairy and arable land near Eigin were too small to contain all his energies. It was thus that he began to make an impact on public life. From 1964 to 1966 he was president of the NFU of Scotland. He also chaired numerous bodies, including the North of Scotland Agriculture College, Blairmore Preparatory School, the North of Scotland Grass-



land Society, the Elgin auction company and the regional milk marketing board as well as serving on the council of the Rowett Research Institution in Aberdeen and on many other boards in the agricultural sector.

When Joughin became chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board - the generator and supplier of electricity to the North of Scotland, the Highlands and the Islands - he said. with characteristic modesty, that he knew nothing about electricity: he had said the same about farming when he had taken that up. But his state of ignorance did not last for long. He was soon able to calculate, by its thickness, the weight of ice forming on overhead lines, having gleaned much information by listening to linesmen's conversations on two-way radio.

A myth has grown up in Scotland that the South of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board - supplying the rest of

company. Administrative savings would mean cheaper electricity and the company would be strong enough to resist a takeover. The policy was supported by senior officials at the Scottish Office but, by the time the matter came to Cabinet, the Secretary of State, Malcolm

the country - tried to take over the northern hydro board before privatisation. The facts are otherwise. Joughin, as chairman of the northern hydro board, was also a member of the board of its southern opposite number and gave general support to the South of Scutland Hydro-Electric Board's preprivatisation analysis, which was sent to the Secretary of State for Scotland in 1984. This took the view that the two boards should be combined into one

Rifkind, had suffered a serious polit-ical reverse because of the Tories' poor showing north of the border in the 1987 general election (they got just ten seats

out of 72). As a result, Rifkind lost standing with Margaret Thatcher, as her memoirs make clear, and she forced through her instinctive, but spurious, conviction that two companies would create competition in Scotland. Rifkind, believing discretion to be the better part of valour, quietly dropped the strategy endorsed by his

The results were distinctly messy. The Government had to retain a golden share to protect the new companies from takeover. Fraught negotiations took place between the two boards about the allocation of assets. Joughin was tough but fair, and his personal relationship with the chairman of the southern board, Sir Donald Miller, remained warm. Appointed CBE in 1971, Joughin was

knighted in 1991. He retired two years later, having considerably mollified critics of post-privatisation boardroom greed by donating half his salary increase to charity.

He had unsuccessfully stood as a Conservative candidate for the Highlands and Islands seat in the European Parliament in 1979; and while his talents never found the big stage they perhaps deserved, he flung himself, after retirement, into the passionate controversies of the parish pump.

For the last three years of his life he was chairman of Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council. He strenuously opposed permission for an expansion planned by the Findhorn Foundation, the New Age settlement which he feared was taking over the

In the summer his small boat was muored in the bay outside his house but he no longer undertook the adventurous voyages of his younger days, when he sailed as far as North West Europe and Scandinavia, Now he preferred to return, of an evening, to the comfort of his own home.

Much has been written about the tensions between Highlanders and white settlers", but Joughin confounded the stereotype. He was held in the greatest affection throughout the North of Scotland and beyond.

He is survived by his wife, Anne Hutchison, whom he married in 1981, and by the son and daughter of his first marriage to Lesley Roy Petrie, which was dissolved

DAVID SHIPMAN

David Shipman, film historian, died from a heart attack on April 22 aged 63. He was born on November 4, 1932.

ALTHOUGH he was never

the resident critic for any proadsheet newspaper. David Shipman's reputation as a film historian was quite secure. Alongside his occasional journalism and film biograhies, stood three excellent books written under the heading The Great Movie Stars. The first of these The Golden Years appeared in 1970. Two years later there followed The International Years and then. after a twenty-year gap, the third in the trilogy, The Independent Years (1991). These three books have never been out of print, a remarkable feat considering that film compendia are superseded every year by ever more voluminous

companion guides. The books comprised short. critical biographies of film stars - a format which Shipman pioneered - written in an opinionated, gossipy manner. Shipman made it a rule never to write about a film unless he had first seen it, and he had an elephantine memory for those films he had watched.

He was meticulous in his dress - he would not dream of wearing an open shirt, even in the hottest weather - and usually wore a bow tie or cravat. Some of the harmless personal vanity that went into his appearance came through in his writing. If he did not like a certain actor, then he would be summarily excluded from his work. Roger Moore and George Brent, for instance, whom he believed were plastic on screen, never made it into Shipman's books. Sometimes Shipman could seem blink-

ered about contemporary cine-



ma. He admired the versatility of the old school of stars, actors like Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire, the latter of whom referred to his acting as "the ioh"

What fascinated Shipman was not acting, but that elu-sive quality which made certain men and women stars. He admired Marilyn Monroe. and appreciated that transcendent quality about her which had nothing to do with her acting. He was balanced in his appraisal of Elizabeth Taylor but quite cool towards Barbra Streisand. Streisand did not possess, in his estimation, that indefinable quality by which a star such as Judy Garland could involve the audience. He made Judy Garland the sub-

ject of a biography in 1992. His passion for film began as an adolescent. The son of a sales representative for an electrical supply company, he was educated in a grammar school in south London, and, after National Service during which he was stationed in Singapore, at Merton College, Oxford, where he read English. Even at this age he was keeping exhaustive notes on every film he saw. He went into publishing, as a represen-

JO PARFITI

tative for publishing companies such as Gollancz and Methuen. This entailed a good deal of travelling on the Conti-nent, and Shipman would pass the evenings watching French films. Sometimes, when he knew a particularly good film was showing in Britain which he had not seen, he would cross the Channel for the evening to watch it. Then, after dinner with a friend who was working at Hamlyn on the new film list. he suggested the idea of the first part of his trilogy, The Golden Years. This was published in 1970, and was followed by the other two books in that series.

Shipman made his living by writing from then on. There was Hollywood Talk (1988) for Bloomsbury, on who said what about whom in films: a revised biography, based on his earlier monograph, of Marion Brando; a book on sex in the cinema; and recently he was completing a book about Fred Astaire. He also wrote obituaries for The Independent. In these, as in all his writing, he had the ability to capture an actor through the occasional gesture or fleeting impression, and to do so succinctly and vividly. Not even the career of the most minor supporting actor had escaped his attention.

Since 1965 Shipman lived in Callow Street in Chelsea with his partner Felix Brenner, who researched for him and edited his manuscripts in their early stages, and who survives him. His office contained a huge but characteristically orderly library including 42 looseleaf volumes containing notes on the 8,000 films he had seen. arranged in alphabetical order. When he was not working, he liked to travel and to visit art exhibitions. He died unexpectedly in his sleep.

SAM SCHOENBAUM

Sam Schoenbaum Shakespearean scholar, died on March 27 aged 69. He was born on March 6, 1927.

SAM SCHOENBAUM had an unparalleled reputation in the field of Shakespeare studies in America. He insisted. however, that his first name appear on the title pages of his books simply as the initial "S". "Why." he argued, "should people I have never met, who read me in bed and in the bathtub, think of me as Sam?" But although he wrote in the most rigorous standards of scholarship, his work was never remotely as forbidding as that initial "S" might sug-

In the preface to his engaging history of Shakespeare biography, Shakespeare's Lives (1970), Schoenbaum described how he "quickly recognised the truth of the observation that biography tends towards oblique selfportraiture".

in his own biography of Shakespeare, William Shakespeare: A Documentary Life (1975), his readers found a hakespeare who came to life from his appearances in deeds and wills, in print and manu-

Mars - 1791-1995 other rematic. Ready for Ma-m - also " Sandays". ber When. 0181-688

script, in the materials of archives and libraries. But, like his biographer, Schoenbaum's Shakespeare was never dry and dusty.

His scholarship was not put solely at the service of scholars. He recognised that his duty lay in affirming "our common humanity" and, in the increasingly specialised world of modern academic criticism, he stood out against its fashions and its exclusivity. He tried to demonstrate the continuity of an older kind of literary study. Sam Schoenbaum was born

in New York and studied as an

undergraduate at Brooklyn

College. He took his PhD at Columbia University with a dissertation on the plays of Thomas Middleton. Appointed to his first teaching post at Northwestern University, Illinois, in 1953, he stayed for more than twenty years, becoming Franklyn Bliss Snyder Professor of English Literature there in 1971. After a year at City University, New York, he moved in 1976 to the University of Maryland where he was Professor of Renaissance Literature and director of the Centre for Renaissance and Barooue Studies from 1981 until his retirement in



1993. The move to Maryland brought him closer to his favourite library, the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington of which he was a

All his publications on Shakespeare's life were intended only as preliminaries to a fullscale biography which, Stratfordians - writers like

unfortunately, increasing illhealth prevented him from completing. Shakespeare's Lives surveyed the strange history of Shakespeare biography, the weighty work of some and the bizarre writings of many. Schoenbaum delighted in the obsessions of the anti-

J. T. Looney who advanced the claims of the Earl of Oxford, or Delia Bacon who argued for those of her putative ancestor, Francis Bacon.

Although his book ran to well over 800 pages, Schoenbaum's ability to communicate his fascination never faltered and he found a warm response from his readers. William Shakespeare: A Documentary Life carefully reproduced all the documents in fine facsimile, setting out the facts and drawing cautious inferences. In its revised and abbreviated version, William Shakespeare: A Compact Documentary Life (1977). Schoenbaum's biography became the standard, authoritative and entertaining life.

When the Folger Shakespeare Library mounted a travelling exhibition, drawing on the unparalleled riches of its collection. Schoenbaum wrote the sumptuously-illustrated book to accompany it, Shakespeare: The Globe and the World (1979). It described the gardens and hunting, needlework and sermons, printshops and theatres of Shakespeare's world.

But the onset of multiple sclerosis in the 1980s and, later, cancer delayed what was to have been the crowning work. A sociable man, who enjoyed good food and fine wines, Schoenbaum bore his long illness patiently, nursed by his wife Marilyn whom he had married in 1946. Their first date had been to see Paul Robeson as Othello and they spent their whole lives together, travelling to lectures and conferences and enjoying the company of friends.

In the current climate of academic life, Sam Schoenbaum may appear to have outlived his time. But his work exemplified all those humane values of scholarship in which he believed so passionately. He is survived by his wife. There were no children.

Jo Parfitt, journalist, died from heart disease on April II aged 68. She was born on July 16, 1927.

JO PARFITT was the only woman staff member in the home news room of The Times from 1954 to 1959. She was also involved in the relaunching of the Woman's Page when it was revived in 1955, the page having been discontinued during the Second World War when paper rationing was introduced. Acutely conscious of the fact that she had not gone to university, she was a perfectionist. Intelligent and conscientious, she set herself the highest standards. Her career illustrates many

of the difficulties for women in an age when they were not expected to have a career. Greatly admired by her colleagues and editors, she left The Times at the age of 33 in 1960 in order to start a family. When she did go back to working from home, her meticulousness made the freelance life hard for her, and she achieved less in this second stage of her career than might have been expected.

Josephine Parfitt — always called Jo - was educated at Guildford County School for Girls, where at the time girls were expected to become either nurses or secretaries. Her father had run a fairly successful business but lost his money as a result of the dishonesty of an associate, so there was no money for her to go to university. Many years later Lord Robbins, director of the London School of Economics, who was a friend, said he wished he could have taught her as she was "a certain first". At 16 she was taken on at The Times as a junior short-hand typist. Within six months she was appointed secretary to Donald Tyerman, later assistant editor of the paper. Just after her 18th birthday. Parfitt resigned because she wanted to become a journalist. She got a job on Lady Rhondda's weekly Time



and Tide, where she stayed for five years.

In 1950 she moved to the News Chronicle, a mid-market Liberal broadsheet with a talented staff including James Cameron and the cartoonist Vicky. She was soon teased for her zeal. Once, when the news editor's wife complained about the declining standards of laundries, she was assigned to write a light-hearted piece. She came back with a carefully researched article several times longer than the news editor wanted. After that, when she showed signs of over-egging the pudding, colleagues would say: "Jo is doing her laundry."

But her work was too good not to be appreciated. She wrote one particularly interesting series comparing unemployment in the 1950s, which she saw as relative deprivation, to the absolute poverty implied by unemploy-ment in the 1930s. She was given increasingly important assignments, some abroad.

In 1954 she was headhunted by the news editor of The Times, R. M. Dobson, who became her strong sup-porter. It was understood that she would run the Woman's Page, but first she was to work in the home news room at Printing House Square, a dingy hole with far fewer telephones and typewriters than reporters.

First she had to pass through that intimidating experience, an interview with Sir William Haley, the Editor. She was bold enough to ask whether he planned to put news on the front page. He replied only that he was always interested to hear the opinion of the younger generation.

A tall, handsome woman with dark hair, at once friendly and diffident, she was an instant success in the newsroom. She was given important hard news assignments at which she excelled, as well as features to write.

Whimsy reigned at the paper then. Parfitt once laboured mightily over a brief feature about how guardsmen from Wellington Barracks were used to test the strength of the new bridge in St James's Park. One of her "turnover" features, on fish and chips. drew the magisterial compliment from Haley: Your turnover was excellent. I did not know there was so much to be

said upon the subject." The Woman's Page duly reappeared in September 1955, and Parfitt was much involved in its reintroduction. But she did not enjoy working in what would now be called a "ghetto" for women readers, and returned to the newsmorn.

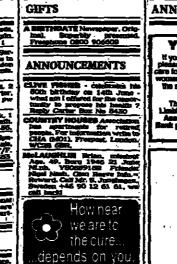
In 1957 Jo Parfitt married Rudolf Klein, then a leader writer on the Evening Standard. Later, after a stint on The Observer, he became a distinguished social scientist at the University of Bath, where he and she lived in a beautiful house crammed with opera recordings until shortly before her death. Although in the late 1970s she returned to work as a freelance editor on the British Medical Journal. her main focus was on her husband and her daughter. Leonora, now a barrister, In her middle fifties she was afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis and spent the last years of her life in a wheelchair. She is survived by her

husband and daughter.

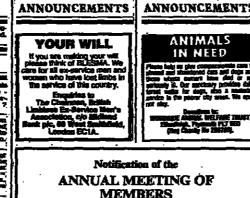
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HITLER'S SECRET DIARIES GERMANS GREET FIND WITH **GREAT SCEPTICISM**

From Michael Binyon Bonn German historians and newspapers have greeted

with considerable scepticism the announcement that Hitler's diaries have been discovered, echoing the view in Britain that this is either the forgery of

the view in shall man his is clued the long of the history of the Nazi period.

Professor Karl-Dieter Bracher of Bonn University, one of the most respected historians of the period, expressed "great scephicism" and said a proper evaluation of the find and its contents was only possible after a careful scientific examination.

Professor Martin Broszat, director of the Munich Institute for Contemporary History, also cast doubt on the documents authenticity. declaring, however, that Lord Dacre, who expressed conviction in *The Times* on Saturday that the diaries were genuine, was a "very careful man who took great care with his sources

Stern's announcement on Friday has provoked astonishment and enormous interest here. The magazine has brought forward the publication of the issue revealing the diaries, and printed a record edition over the weekend of more than two

German papers and reports have had to rely so

ON THIS DAY

April 25, 1983

Unlike the Parnell forgeries of 1889 which nearly bankrupled The Times and seriously damaged its reputation, the paper's belief in the Hitler diaries did little harm; indeed the subsequent revelations of forgery made first-class copy in the paper.

far for details on the extracts already published in The Sunday Times, retranslating quotations from the diaries back into German. Newspapers, publishing pictures of the Nazi leaders mentioned in The Sunday Times extracts, have also gone into

detail about the way the documents were discovered and acquired by Stern.

Hott Nicolaus von Below, Hitler's former air force adjutant, told the mass circulation Bild am Sonatag that the diaries were just another of the many untrue "fairy stories" circulating since the end of the war. "We often used to eat at about three or four o'clock in the night, and only after that did Hitler go to bed". Herr von Below, who was constantly in Hitler's entourage from 1937 until the end of the war, told the paper. "So he had no time to write anything. It's all a complete lie."

The paper also quoted Professor Werner Maser, who has written books on Hitter, saying that a forgery factory existed in Potsdam. East Germany, to num out Hitler documents, letters and pictures which were then sold to the West for

and pictures which were then some to the vost and valuable Western currency.

Stern has rejected his statements, saying he had disqualified himself as a scientific historian. He had already offered his story of the East German forgery factory to the magazine; but had been mable to back up his claims with any proof or real

ingery latery to the magazine; but had been unable to back up his claims with any proof or real indication of its existence.

Former General Hans Baur, now aged 86, who was Hitler's chief pilot and recalled Hitler's distress at hearing of the loss of his diaries, stood by his conviction that they are genuine...

The extracts in The Sunday Times yesterday show that . . in 1943 Hitler is complaining about the level of guerrilla activity in occupied territory which he says was Himmler's job to stamp out. But he lives in another world, and it seems to me that he exists in an ancient Germanic world in the that he exists in an ancient Germanic world in th neavens."
Hitler complains also of Goebbels's notorious

affair with the Czech actress Lida Barrova: The linke Dr Goebbels is up to his old tricks again with make Dr Coenotes is up to mis out traces again with women." He asks at one point: "Where are Goering's miraculous aircraft?" And in 1934, at the time of the purge of the brownshirts, he accused Ernst Rochm, the brownshirt leader, of lying to him. "I gave him the opportunity to take the noble way out but he was too cowardly to do even that." He was shot on Hitler's orders.

NEWS ...

Poll gives Tories glimmer of hope

People have at last started to feel more optimistic about the economic outlook and are more positive about John Major than at any time for three years, according to the latest MORI poll for The Times.

■ However, the shift in attitude has not yet changed voting intentions or the expectation that the Conservatives will suffer big losses in next week's council elections. Support for the Tories has remained at 28 per cent over the past monthPage 1

Major catches tide of EU protest

John Major told politicians pressing for withdrawal from the European Union that they were living in Cloud-cuckooland. But he responded to the rising tide of public and media disaffection with Brussels by signalling a hardening of British

Otter returns

Thames near Reading, 40 miles

upstream from London, for the

first time in thirty years, confirm-

ing a dramatic improvement in

water quality Pages 10, 21

European Union countries last

year slipped further away from

the Maastricht single-currency

targets, according to the German

Bundesbank president in his an-

Chechen power gap

A power struggle is expected

among Chechen guerrilla chiefs

as the rebel movement tries to fill

the power vaccuum left by the

death of its leader. Dzhokhar

Sotheby's was amazed by the bid-

ding at the Jacqueline Kennedy

Onassis sale in New York. Presi-

dent Kennedy's rocking chair

made \$400,000...... Pages 15, 19

The Dole campaign is to intensify

its attacks on President Clinton in an urgent effort to stem a rising

Republican panic and erode the

President's poll lead Page 16

The leader of the Aum Shinrikyo

doomsday cult refused to plead to

charges about a nerve gas attack

on the Tokyo underground when

his trial opened Pages 17, 21

Sect leader on trial

Dole on the attack

Kennedy fever

.. Page 14, 23

nual report

Dudayev...

Currency slippage

Threat to Adams

President Clinton is expected to An otter has been exploring the sever relations with Gerry Adams if the IRA refuses to resume its ceasefire and disqualifies Sinn Fein from all-party talks on Ulster's futurePage 2

What the MP saw

A backbench Labour MP told the High Court that he spotted a journalist who is now one of Tony Blair's closest aides soliciting signatures on a hand-drafted parliamentary motionPage 3

Nursery project

America's largest child care company is targeting 30 British towns to open dawn-to-dusk nurseries for children from six weeks old following heavy demand at a pilot centre in Cheshire......Page 5

by Oliver Hardy is to have its first

Back on screen

public screening for almost 80 years, after being rescued from a ..Page 6 War hero honoured

The earliest surviving film made

The bravery of a wartime

railman who prevented a trainload of bombs exploding has been recognised with the naming of a new garden in Ipswich..... Page 7 Divorce warning

Tory backbenchers led the attack on the Government's divorce reforms, warning that they would cause a big increase in marital Page 9 breakdowns

The menace from outer space

Eros, an asteroid 15 miles long and twice the size of the one that killed the dinosaurs, may hit the Earth. The asteroid that landed 65 million years ago threw so much debris into the atmosphere that the climate was changed and vegetation died. A team of Italian-French scientists says a disaster is quite likely - but not for at least 100,000 yearsPage 1



The Queen with the President of Mongolia, Punsalmaa Ochirbat, and his wife after his audience at Windsor Castle yesterday

Electric shock The row over restructuring the industry looks set to continue despite the blocking of the generators' bids.....Page 25

coms threat: The proposed £35 billion merger between Cable and Wireless and BT hit a new obstacle after a warning from C&W's powerful German partner Page 25

Telegraph move: Conrad Black has moved to assume full control of Telegraph newspapers with a £763 million offer for the 36 per cent of the company which is publicly

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 15.4 to 3,817.6. Sterling's tradeweighted index was unchanged at 84.0 after a dip from \$1.5146 to \$1.5128 and a rise from DM2.2990 to DM2_3022.....Page 28 Football: The Republic of Ireland lost 2-0 to the Czech Republic in Prague. The goals came in the second half from Martin Frydek and Pavel Kuka... _ Page 48

Snooker: Terry Griffiths, a veteran of 18 world championships, has never been involved in a more dramatic finish than his 10-9 victory over Jamie Burnett in this year's first round. .. Page 46

Athletics: Colin Jackson withdrew his threat to boycott some of Britain's top meetings this . Page 43

Rugby league: Shaun McRae, the St Helens coach, accused his Bradford counterpart of "living in Disneyland" over Bradford's starting line-up for the Silk Cut Chall-..... Page 43 enge Cup final

Rip-roaring Richard: New films include a rip-roaring screen adaptation of Richard III, set in the Thirties with Ian McKellen playing the title-role; and The Birdcage, a remake of La Cage aux folles with Robin WilliamsPage 33

Prince on the run: Peter Whelan's fine new play at the Birmingham Rep. Divine Right, portrays an heir to the throne wandering incognito round middle England.....Page 35

Tosca refreshed: A dull Covent Garden production of Tosca has been freshened up by a fine new cast, including the fast-rising British baritone Anthony Michaels-Moore singing Scarpia......Page 35 New on video: The space thriller

IN THE TIMES

David Sinclair on a new

Moran on the Bluetones

album from the

■ INTERVIEW

Cranberries; Caitlin

Valerie Grove meets

Society's maverick

president

Martin Mears, the Law

11 11 12 13

POP

holidaymakers Pages 38, 39 Coming down: Frequent-flyer Apollo 13 is among the new bonus schemes might be phased ... Pages 38, 39 TOMORROW Writers behind the writing: Peter

> Ackroyd on Bernard Shaw; Valerie Grove on Diuna Barnes; Derwent May on the diaries of Anthony ... Pages 36, 37 The Olive Tree of Romano Prodi

Going, gone: New York's sale of

the century - the auction of Jackie

Kennedy Onassis's jewellery and

Daycare: A mother explains why

her child goes to nursery school

and a teacher looks at what's best

Dr Thomas Stuttaford on the real

French leave: Tour operators to

France are continuing to cut prices

in the hope of luring British

for children...

results of X-rays

_Page 19

...Page IS

...... Page 18

and the financial markets are in honeymoon phase. If this opportunity is not to be wasted. Italy needs a clear sign that it is on course for monetary union and participation in the euro by 2002. The new coalition must show firm determination to bind us closer to our European Preview: Why would anybody want to be a police officer for nothing? Cutting Edge: Special Force (Channel 4, 9pm). Review: Peter Barnard is captivated by Margarita Pracatan

Book of chances

John Major's policy lowards Europe remains a precarious straddle between opposing positions. It is not only the Euro sceptics who think this policy cannot-_Page 2}

Stranger than Aum

Japan is the most law-abiding of countries: the trauma of the Aum Shinrikyo sect will linger long after this bizarre trial has become ... Page 21 history.....

Ring of brown water

The Reading otters would be wise to colonise upstream rather than down to London, at any rate until the millermium party is over. Being such slippery survivors, they will Page 21

MAGNUS LINKLATER

Sunday has become a highly productive day for politicians and news managers, a seedbed for the day's headlines. For those who reiish the swordplay of party politics it is all good fun - not much blood shed, but a very satisfying clang of steel on steel ...

PETER RIDDELL

Many Labour supporters regard the next election as primarily an opportunity to end the long Tory era rather than as the start of the New Jerusalem. Expectations are low, and have been deliberately lowered by Tony Blair to avoid later disappointment Page 9

JOHN BRYANT

A touch of flamboyant mockery of an opponent who has mucked things up is nothing new in sport. Some games even have it deep in their make-up... Page 46

Sir Michael Joughin, electricity chairman; David Shipman, Song? historian, Sam Schoenbaune Shakespearean scholar, Jo Parfill, Page 23 journalist

Labour policies; friends of Kenwood, Thought for the Day: human rights ...

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Sunny intervals

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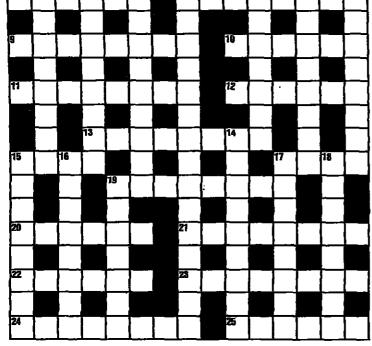
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,151



ACROSS

- 5 Soft food and hard available for dog (8).
- 9 Stop being full of vice (3-5). 10 Beetle can be irritating (3,3).
- 11 Report of a shot at the wicket (8). 12 One's retreating, having ad-
- vanced without a sound (6). 13 Suitable postulate held by primate
- 15 Head started losing heart (4).
- 17 Play from Pinero taking part (4). 19 A pointer to abuse of deadly drug
- 20 The cloth originally called loden employed rather greenish yarn
- Solution to Puzzle No 20,150

- 1 This stops drunkard eating pork 21 William Tell had to acknowledge applause (4,1,3).
 - 22 It flies round one, in part (6). 23 Have lines inside, with edges joined together (8).
 - 24 Charm it briefly attracts wild animals (8). 25 He got fatally nailed with girl in family demanding date (6).

- 2 Condemn unheard small book held up by fatso (8).
- 3 Christian girl I spare (8).
- 4 Fix hose to bag (5,4). 5 Make a firm decision to go faster
- (3,4,4,4). 6 I do not approve of Egyptian
- picture (7). 7 Book from Liberal upset relatively
- passionate Cockney (8). 8 Patching damaged headgear (8).
- 14 Fathead's stupidity (9). 15 Withdraw cash invested, resulting
- in power cut (8). 16 Main antenna receiving radio
- telegraphy (8). 17 Poor sales rep gets worse (8).
- 18 RAF woman trained in martial craft (3-2-3).
- 19 Messenger states devotion (7).

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FORECAST

☐ General: England and Wales will start mostly fine and dry. Southern areas should remain fine and warm, it increasingly cloudy. The northwest will become increasingly cloudy with patchy rain. Scotland and Northern ireland will start mostly fine and dry; some rain is likely in the far northeast. Thickening cloud will bring outbreaks of rain from the west. Remaining mild.

☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, Channel Isles: mostly fine and dry, sunniest in the morning. Winds light, west then southwest. Quite warm, max 16C (61F).

☐ W Midlands, SW England, S Wales, Central N, NE England: mostly dry with early sunshine, cloudy later with perhaps drizzle. Winds light or moderate, mainly west or south west. Max 14C (57F).

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IN Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scot-land, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Irefand: dry start, thickening cloud spreading rain past. Winds moderate length, trach east. Winds moderate, locally fresh, southwest. Max 12C (54F) Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee,
Abardeen, Moray Firth: dry for
much of the morning but increasingly
cloudy, patchy rain likely later. Winds
mainly moderate, southwest. Max

☐ NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: cloudy with rain at times, becoming drier and brighter before clouding over again. Winds fresh northwest, locally strong, becoming moderate southwest. Max 10C (50F).

Outlook: rain in the north spreading slowly south, brighter weather following into the north.

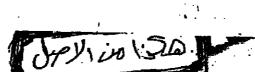
remain over northern France and decline; low D likely to cross Scotland and fill

Changes to the chart below from noon; low M will drift east and fill; high A will



TODAY
London Bridge
Aberdaen
Avonmouth
Bellest
Cardill
Devonport
Dover
Dublin (N Wall)
Falmouth
Greenock
Heavich
Holyhead
Hulf (Albort D)
Biracombe PM 823 6:44 11:33 4:30 11:24 10:16 4:09 10:37 5:36 4:31 3:25 11:11 11:10:57 11:40 7:11 3:30 2:31 4:37 10:48 9:57 10:16 9:52 10:43 3:16 3:32 3:16 4:01

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The **sit** s st**an** ook in

Littlewo



ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

The single currency is starting to look inevitable



BOOKS 36, 37

Peter Ackroyd on the ascent of Bernard Shaw



SPORT 43-48

John Bryant on the rebel who sought applause

PRICE CUTS TO FRANCE Travel 38, 39

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY APRIL 25 1996

Further industry moves expected despite blocking of bids

Lang decision fails to end power turmoil

THE dispute over the restructuring of the electricity industry looks set to continue in spite of the decision by Ian ang, President of the Board of Trade, to block the bids for regional electricity com-panies by National Power and PowerGen, the UK power generators.

His ruling that the two proposals to combine generation and distribution in electricity should not proceed, was swiftly followed by indications from Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, that he could look favourably on plans by the Hanson conglomerate to buy power stations from National Power and PowerGen.

Those deals, worth more than £2 billion for six megawatts of plant, would create a big. vertically integrated company because Eastern, the division of Hanson, is already the country's largest supplier of electricity with more than three million customers. But Professor Littlechild, who had vehemently opposed the mergers of National Power with Southern Electric and Power-Gen with Midlands Electricity, said that Eastern was a not be on the same scale as National Power or PowerGen, which have a large share of the market," he said. "Another medium-sized player would contribute to competition."

Both the large generators were forced to sell plant by Professor Littlechild to encourage new generators into the market, where currently NatBY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

ional Power and PowerGen command huge sway over the wholesale price of electricity. The principle of vertical

integration was not rejected by Mr Lang, in what has been widely interpreted as a political decision to fend off criti-cism of the Government's handling of electricity privati-sation. That, along with Professor Littlechild's keenness to see plant disposed of quickly, could herald more crossgeneration/distribution moves. British Energy, the nuclear power group being floated in the summer, is known to be keen to expand

into distribution and would

probably want to move ahead

Lang blocks bid ... Pennington.

of a possible change in Government

Mr Lang's rejection of the bids adds further uncertainty to the next moves of Southern Company of the US, which made an approach on National Power last week. The prospect of an overseas owner for Britain's largest generator brought a flurry of concern from consumer groups and raised the political temperature when John Redwood and Norman Lamont weighed into

Southern (US), whose overseas chief executive. Tom Boren, has been in London for the past few weeks, has yet to make a fresh statement after National Power rebuffed a

request for talks about talks. But industry watchers do not believe the company, which is a key player in the US, was naive enough to approach the UK generator without being aware of regulatory hurdles and the prospect of a hostile

reaction.

The company was the first US utility to move on the UK market when it bought Sweb. the south-western regional company, in a hostile bid. Ownership of Sweb could be seen to harm its regulatory chances in bidding for a generator, but Southern has indicated it wants to sell up to half its interest in Sweb. Investors in privatised pow-

er stocks saw around £1 billion wiped off the value of their companies as the Government blocked the bid plans. The share price of National Power dropped 32p to 564p and that of PowerGen 36p to 570p. The biggest victims of the fallout, however, were shares in Southern Electric and Midlands Electricity, with Southern tumbling 79p to 824p and

Midlands 40p to 371p. Special dividends worth more than El billion could be on the cards for investors in ity companies come under pressure to return some value to shareholders, who saw their holdings crumble on Mr Lang's decision.

Nigel Hawkins, utilities analyst at Yamaichi, said: "Both generators are now faced with a pressing need to restructure their balance sheets and deliver some value."





Power players: Tom Boren, left, of Southern (US), and Professor Stephen Littlechild



Ian Lang, whose ruling was seen as a political decision to fend off privatisation criticism

Barings boss faces

· BY ROBERT MILLER

THE disciplinary case bought by a senior City watchdog against Peter Norris, the chief executive officer of Barings at the time of the £860 million crash, is expected to be con-cluded next week.

The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the regulator for brokers and futures dealers, will announce that Mr Norris has accepted a threeyear ban from certain senior SFA registers and agreed to pay costs of about £10,000.

Mr Norris, who declined to comment yesterday, is now a non-executive director of John Brown, the publishing house that produces Viz and Gardens Illustrated.

Mr Norris, who is due to give evidence on the Barings crash to the Commons Treasury Select Committee next month. is the first of the nine remaining disciplinary cases brought by the SFA to be completed.

All have been charged with failing to act with due skill. care and diligence in monitoring the bogus trading activities of Nick Leeson on the Far East money markets. Peter Baring, the former chairman of the 233-year old merchant bank,, and his deputy, Andrew Tuckey, have also been summoned to give evidence at the Commons.

Five others are understood to be in discussions with the SFA over penalties ranging from a three-year ban from senior SFA registers to a severe limitation on the work they may undertake in the securities industry.

Barings executives. Mary Wolz, global head of equity products, Ron Baker, who set up the Debt Financial Prod-ucts Group, and Ian Hopkins, who was in charge of group treasury and risk, are under-stood to have refused to accept the SFA verdicts on their professional conduct and are

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

US RATE

LONDON MOHEY

New York: 1.5128

SSS DOLLAR

Tokyo close Yen 106.70 NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Jul)... \$19.05 (\$19.25) GOLD:

London close \$390.90 (\$392.05) * denotes midday trading price

Australian boost Bank of Scotland proved that

its decision to build up an Australian business instead of following the recent trend of banks to buy building societ-ies had paid off after it unveiled a 21 per cent advance in full year profits. Page 27, Tempus 28

EU block

The European Commission has blocked Lonrho and Gencor from creating a new platinum giant because of fears that the company and its only rival. Anglo Ámerican, would use their stranglehold to fix prices. Page 30, Tempus 28

Veba threat to BT and C&W merger

By Eric Reguly

THE proposed £35 billion merger between Cable and Wireless and BT hit a new obstacle yesterday when it emerged that Veba, C&W's powerful German partner, has given warning that it will not support the merger if its interests are sacrificed. Veba, one of Germany's

largest industrial groups, owns 10.5 per cent of C&W and has formed two telecoms joint ventures with C&W in Europe. Vehacom, the larger of the two, plans to become the main competitor to Deutsche Telekom after the market is deregulated in 1998. Veba fears that BT will

insist that its own joint venture in Germany, known as Viag Interkom, will emerge as the preferred German partner of a merged C&W-BT group. Vehacom and Viag Interkeep Vebacom and Viag Interkom, whose half owner is Viag, the German utility, are competitors and realise that only one of them would have a role in the enlarged group.
BT and C&W admit privately that finding a solution to the

German question is one of the key issues to be resolved

before their merger can proceed. A formal merger agree-ment is expected within weeks. Neither Veba nor Viag appear willing to bow out gracefully. Hannelore Gantzer. a Viag spokeswoman, said: "We are confident that we will

be the ones that survive." Viag noted that it and BT continued to work on expanding their German partnership even after BT and C&W began talks last year. In February, BT and Viag announced their intention to bring RWE, another German utility, into the Viag Interkom joint venture.

People close to the merger talks said that Viag might might take legal action for breach of its partnership contract, or try to extract a large payment from BT, if Viag Interkom is squeezed out.

Veba appears to have the upper hand because it owns a significant stake of C&W and has a seat on the C&W board.

Hitch at the altar, page 29

IoD rejects a single currency

BRITAIN'S company directors yesterday gave strong support to Eurosceptics by voting heavily to reject the UK joining a European single currency. The annual conference of the Institute of Directors (IoD) also overwhelmingly backed the UK's opt-out from the Euro-pean social chapter on em-ployment standards.

Both moves, but especially the single currency vote, back what even pro-European business leaders now acknowledge is a growing Euroscepticism in Brit-ish business. UK business bodies have been divided over Europe, with organ-isations such as the Confederation of British Industry more overtly pro-Europea while bodies such as the IoD have been more sceptical.

A vote at the end of the IoD debate showed 69 per cent against a single currency, and 28 per cent in favour.

Major speaks out, page 1 What kind of EU? page 11 Conference, page 26 City Diary, page 29

Telegraph agrees £763m takeover

By Alasdair Murray

CONRAD BLACK, chairman of Hollinger, the Canadian publishing group, yesterday moved to assume full control of Telegraph newspapers with a £763 million offer for the 36 per cent of the company which is publicly owned.

Hollinger also hinted at a further easing in the newspaper price war by stating that it intended to lift the cover price of The Daily Telegraph when conditions are "appropriate". The paper now costs 40p as opposed to 48p before the price war began in 1993. In a deal agreed with the Telegraph board, Hollinger is offering 500p a share and a special dividend of 10p a share to Telegraph shareholders. Hollinger added that Telegraph shareholders could be in line for a further payout if the company disposes of its 25 per cent stake in Fairfax, the

Australian newspaper group, within the next two years. Hollinger has approached the new Australian Government, before a review of

newspaper ownership laws,

giving warning that it will sell its stake in Fairfax if Mr Black is unable to increase his

holding in the company. Kerry Packer, who already owns a 17 per cent stake in Fairfax, and Tony O'Reilly's APN newspaper group are un-derstood to be interested in buying the stake if Hollinger decides to sell. But industry experts believe Hollinger's threat is largely bluff as the Fairfax group includes some of the most profitable titles in the world. Shares in the

Telegraph rose 96p to 569p, just below the offer price.
Hollinger upset the City two years ago after the group sold 12.5 million shares in the Telegraph just one month before the share price plummeted 35 per cent after the decision to cut cover prices.

Although Hollinger bought back millions of shares after the fall, an earlier attempt to take the company private floundered because the company was unable to agree a price with the Telegraph board.

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Littlewoods chairman to quit at AGM



THE Littlewoods pools-to-retailing empire was plunged into fresh controversy yesterday, when it announced that Leonard van Geest, chairman for the past six years, is to quit at next month's annual meeting. His successor is James Ross, who was ousted from Cable and Wireless in November after a damaging board-

Mr van Geest appears to be the latest victim of the in-fighting which has gripped members of the controlling Moores family. Barry Dale, the former chief executive, was fired a year ago, and later returned with a troublesome £1.2 Littlewoods recently disclosed a 16 per

cent fall in pre-tax profits.

Littlewoods insisted yesterday that the parting was amicable, but conceded that Mr van Geest, 46, had agreed to make way for a "heavyweight" chairman with an expanded role. He earned £225,000 in 1994, and is likely to command at least as much in compensation.
The company said: "The changes will

lead to a clear separation between ownership and management issues and to adjustments in the structure of the board and the responsibilities of its members. These new developments are designed to introduce clarity and best

practice in the governance of Littlewoods and improve the performance of all the

Mr van Geest as much as acknowledged his past difficulties when he said: "I am confident that my successor will benefit from having a more clearly defined role and greater responsibilities." A Littlewoods spokesman added: "He recognised that we have widened the scope of the job."

Mr Ross, who was chief executive of Cable and Wireless for four years, said he was looking forward to leading Littlewoods into a new era.

Pennington, page 27

THE INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Rejection for single European currency

BUSINESS leaders at the Institute of Directors annual conference yesterday over-whelmingly rejected Britain's participation in a single European currency. By voting to re-ject it the conference in Lon-don supported the strongly Eurosceptical line of the institute's leadership.

In place of a traditional

business conference format. IoD leaders decided to devote the whole of the institute's conference to Europe, and arranged debates on two key issues of a single currency and a social chapter, with speakers both for and against. Arguing

EMU DEBATE

Lord Tebbit, a former Trade and Industry Secretary, said monetary union was simply a stepping-stone for politicians seeking a federal Europe.

He said: "The single currency is not about economics, it is about politics, and since when has subordinating politics to economics done anyone any good?" Quoting William Gladstone, the former Prime Minister, he said: "The finances of this country are intimately associated with the liberry of this country." But joining a currency union undermines the ability of countries to adjust their economic policies to national needs: "The political risk would be incalculable."

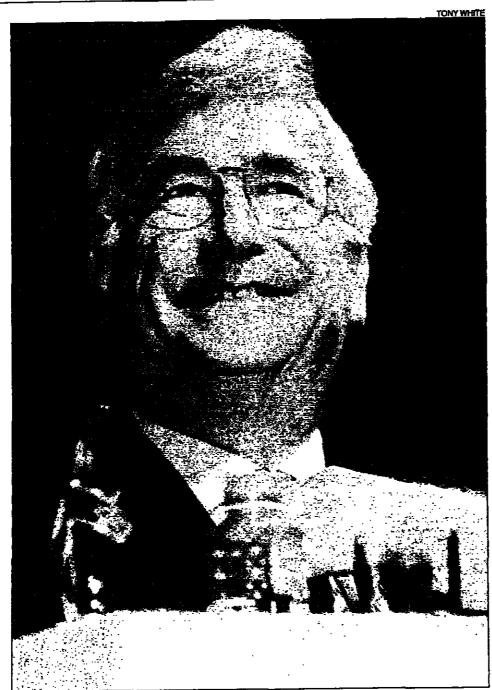
Lord Tebbit was backed by Sir John Hoskyns, a former ioD Director-General and founder of Hoskyns Group. who said: "I believe the single currency project will do business enormous damage." Combining currencies would oping states such as Estonia and Portugal, while structural differences, such as the way pension funds are financed. would cause huge strains.

But Georges Jacobs, chair-man of the Federation of Belgian Industry, said that as a pragmatic businessman, he saw five reasons why a single currency would be in the UK's long term interest.

Business accounting would be simplified, and currency conversion costs of £18 billion a year saved, he said. Britain's sovereignty over its economy would rise, because it would have a say in European mone-tary policy, rather than be do-minated by decisions of the Bundesbank, as at present. Prices would be more stable, and interest rates lower, because the economy would be well managed. Trade would be promoted by exchange-rate stability and the single mar-ket would work better.

Alan Beith, deputy leader of the Liberal Democrats, waved a £5 note issued in 1949 worth 29p today, to illustrate the way Britain's currency had been devalued. Backing the case for monetary union, he said bond markets did not believe Britain had broken its cycle of surging inflation followed by rising interest rates: "We sound like Elizabeth Taylor after her eighth marriage, saying this time it will be different anobody believes us."

A clear majority of speakers from the floor opposed a single currency, with seven against and three in favour. Business speakers said a sing-le currency would hit UK business hard, and transfer control of Britain's economic policymaking to other EU countries.



Chapter and verse: Sir Stanley Kalms said flexible employment laws suited both sides

destroyed jobs, he told busi-ness leaders: "We need to

keep government off your

backs, so that you can put

your backs into creating jobs. Europe hasn't done that."

The Conservative Govern-

ment has made the UK job

market "the most lightly regu-

lated, lowest social cost labour

market in Europe. As a result

UK prospects are bright, says Major

economic prospects as "bright" on the basis of new survey evidence from com-pany directors in the UK signalling a potential upturn in growth, with orders, output, profits and jobs all rising.

The findings of the latest business trends survey from the IoD contrast sharply with the results of the latest economic report from the Confederation of British Industry. which this week painted its gloomiest recent picture of the state of the UK economy.

Privately, IoD leaders were surprised at how positive were the results of the survey — the first since being turned from a bi-monthly report to a quarter-ly study in line with other large-scale business surveys.
While they refused to accept

that its findings might have been influenced by the methodological changes, they acknowledged that the alterations make impossible comparisons with previous IoD surveys and emphasised the need to consider its results over time after a number of surveys in the new format have been carried out.

They emphasised that because the survey included the more buoyani service sector, rather than just the CBI's manufacturing base, its results reflected a better industrial spread.

Welcoming the findings, Mr Major told the conference in

JOHN MAJOR, the Prime London: "The survey confirms what many of us have felt for what many of us have felt for some time — that the economic prospects are bright. They will get brighter, and, increasingly, we have a lot to be positive about in this country."

Lord Young, IoD president, proclaimed the survey's findings as signalling the return of the long sought for "feel good" factor in the economy.

The IoD's survey of 500

company directors showed a strong company performance over the past three months. The institute suggested its results were consistent with a forecast of 25 per cent growth in the

THE ECONOMY

economy this year, IoD analysts suggested the Chancellor and the Bank of England might have to raise interest rates to restrain economic growth, although they said that there were dangers in the possibility of a substantial stock correction and a prolonged recession in Europe.

A balance of 69 per cent of directors felt their company was performing well. Demand was quite strong, with a balance of 29 per cent reporting abovenormal order books.

Employment had seen a significant increase" over the past three months, but 27 per cent said overall costs had

USAir cuts losses to \$32.3m

USAir, which is 25 per cent owned by British Airways, has recorded a net loss of \$32.3 million in the first quarter of this year.
Stephen Wolf, the new

chairman, said that he was disappointed with the result in a quarter when other airlines had reported record profits. It is, however, an improvement on the \$42 million loss reported by the company at the same time last year.

Mr Wolf said that business was lower than normal in January and February because of harsh winter weather March had seen a return to a normal level. There was a rise in revenues from \$1.8 billion to \$1.9 billion.

Youard quits

Richard Youard, the investment ombudsman for Imro, the watchdog for fund managers, is to stand down on May I. He will be replaced by Peter Dean. deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Stake rises

Amersham International, the UK-based health science group, is to buy a further 30 per cent stake in Nihon Medi-Physics, the Japanese nuclear medicine company, spending £51.4 million to achieve joint ow-nership with NMP's parent company, Sumitomo Chemicals.

Lloyds appeal Lloyds Bank last night said that it wanted time to con-sider a High Court judg-

ment concerning its £4 billion staff pension scheme that could cost around £100 million.

PNE in black

Preston North End. the Alternative Investment Mar-ket-listed football club, has reported pre-tax profits of £42,000 (£217,000 loss) in the six months to Decem-

Argos signed

Burford Holdings, the property group, has signed up Argos, the catalogue retail group, for a 400,000 sq ft centre on the Heywood Distribution Park near Manchester.

FINANCIAL NEWS FROM BANK OF SCOTLAND

sively rejected the European

social chapter and insisted on

the Government's retaining of

its opt-out from Europe-wide

urity Secretary, said that legis-

lation could not create more

or better jobs — only business could do that. Regulations

Peter Lilley, the Social Sec-

employment regulation.

Bank of Scotland Annual Results

	1996	1995
TOTAL PROFIT FROM GROUP OPERATIONS BEFORE PROVISIONS	£706.4m	£650.0m
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	£545.0m	£449.7m
TOTAL CAPITAL RESOURCES	£3,533m	£2,731m
TOTAL ASSETS	£44,099m	£34,104m
EARNINGS PER ORDINARY STOCK UNIT	25.8p	22.3p
DIVIDEND PER ORDINARY STOCK UNIT	6.85p	5.82p

- Total profit from Group operations before: provisions a record £706.4 million
- Profit before taxation up 21 per cent on 1995
- O Dividend increased by 17.7 per cent
- O Cost: Income ratio 52.1 per cent



for a copy of the Bank's Annual Report contact the Marketing Services and Public Relations Department, Bank of Scotland, Uberior House, PO Box 12, 61 Grassmarket, Edinburgh EH1 2.F.

EMPLOYMENT

Social chapter is given short shrift

our unemployment is now below the level every other major European country - and

Signing the social chapter, he said, would be particularly damaging to Britain. Europe would harmonise to the most onerous, rigid and costly employment regime, and the move would give more power to the unions in Britain. Employment laws, too, would not be uniformly observed. John Monks, TUC General

A CONSERVATIVE MP yes-

terday attacked a Midlands

building society as "an utter

disgrace over its selling of unsuitable home income plans

William Powell, MP for

Corby, who has campaigned

for compensation for people who, in the 1980s, were sold

stock market-based plans sub-

sequently banned by City au-

thorities, singled out the West

Bromwich Building Society

Mr Powell said many people

had been left with debt of

£20,000 each, in spite of the Investors Compensation Scheme

SOARING sales in Asia-Pacif-

ic and Eastern Europe helped

to boost half-year results from

Siemens, the German elec-

tronics company (Clare Stew-

restructuring costs also con-

tributed to the 15 per cent rise in net income to DM1.08

billion in the period to March

The strength of internation-

al markets helped to offset

Gilts issue

in demand

Bank of England officials

breathed a sigh of relief after

safely seeing away the first gilts issue of the new fiscal year. The

E3 billion sale by auction of 712

per cent Treasury Stock 2006 yesterday was almost three

time oversubscribed, predominantly by fund managers al-

though private investors contributed nearly £2 million

Fears had been expressed

within the City and at the Treasury that a £3 billion issue

was over-ambitious but the

market showed a surprising

appetite for the government

IOUs. Last year's gilts auctions

raised E31.1 billion, with the final one raising a similar amount to yesterday's issue. The next is due on May 29.

to the new issue.

writes).

this year.

for particular criticism.

to elderly investors.

European measures supported by such key Conservatives as Baroness Thatcher, who had approved legislation under which directives were coming forward to set maximum hours of work.

directors not to vote against

He said that the UK opt-out now looked "shaky", especially on European works councils, adding that lurking behind the IoD's motion on the social chapter was the idea that deregulation was a good thing: "Well, it has not done the British beef industry much good."

Sir Stanley Kalms, chair-Secretary, warned company man of the Dixons retail

paying some compensation. He told the Commons: "I in-

dict the management and the

directors of the West Brom-wich for behaviour and con-

duct which can only be de-

scribed as an utter disgrace." The society had tried to "stifle

criticism by the use of writs". Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury,

said: "I will continue to do all

that is within my power . . . to

night accused Mr Powell of relaunching "a stale campaign" and said his speech was

littered with "inaccuracies".

weakness in Germany where

sales fell by 5 per cent against

last year. By comparison Asia-

Pacific saw a 20 per cent sales

growth, with a 45 per cent

increase in Eastern Europe,

resulting in a 6 per cent sales growth worldwide to DM42.3

Strong growth in orders was recorded by Siemens com-

munications division, as well

as in power generation, where orders rose by 16 per cent.

TOURIST

Bank Buys 2.02 17.23 50.35 50.35 2.169 2.75 7.88 8.20 2.48 384.00 12.37 1.02 5.2000 2466.00 1755.50 0.595 2.77 10.51 2.694 199.00 10.85 2.47.50 10.85 2.47.18

1.86 15.73 46.06 2.009 0.700 8.71 7.23 7.55 2.25 358.00 11.37 0.94 4.5500 2.15 9.21 159.50 0.540 12.503 2.15 1229.00 6.14 186.00 10.05 1.0

RATES

see the issue resolved." The West Bromwich last

MP attacks society

over income plans

By Robert Miller

Siemens' income up 15%

Lower

group, said he was firmly opposed to the social chapter. There are bad employers, but laws won't get rid of them," he said. "Most employers in this country are good employers. They can't afford not to be." Flexible employment laws and part-time working suited companies and employees alike. The social chapter is wrong in principle and wrong in practice, and it won't work - and those without work will never forgive us if we

REPORTS BY PHILIP BASSETT AND ROSS TIEMAN

This notice is issued in compliance with the requirements London Stock Exchange Limited (the 'London Stock Exchange'). A Prospectus relating to Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust ple dated 24 April 1996 has been published. Application has been made for all of the 'C' Shares of Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc to be issued to be admitted to the Official List. It is expected that admission will become effective and that dealings in the 'C' Shares will commence on 22 May 1996.



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(Incorporated in Scotland under the Companies Act 1985 with registered number 126524)

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Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust plc has received irrevocable undertakings to apply for in aggregate 65,000,000 'C' Shares in the Placing, applications in pursuance of which will be accepted in full. The Offer for Subscription for up to 10,000,000 °C' Shares will be available for subscription by existing shareholders and warrantholders and the public. Applications (which should each be for a minimum of 250,000 °C' Shares (making a minimum subscription per application of £250,000) except in the case of market makers) should be received by not later than 10.00 a.m. on 15 May 1996.

Copies of the Prospectus and application forms for use in the Offer for Subscription can be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (excluding Saturdays and public holidays) up to and including 15 May 1996 from:

Aberforth Partners 14 Melville Street Edinburgh EH3 7NS

Dickson Minto W.S. Royal London House 22-25 Finsbury Square London EC2A 1DS

In addition, copies of the Prospectus can be obtained, by collection only, for two business days from the date of this notice from the Company Announcements Office, the London Stock Exchange, London Stock Exchange Tower, Capel Court, London EC2

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☐ Fallout from Lang's electric shocker ☐ Reform of archaic shareholder regulations ☐ Still more to do at Spurs

ANY political decision that upsets several hundred thousand people is a courageous one. lan Lang cannot be faulted for lack of courage, therefore, as he hacks his way out of the National

Power impasse.

The blocking of two bids yesterday is clearly a political decision, no matter how it is dressed up with references to the public interest, and it seems designed to keep National Power out of America hands. Those thousands of investors in Southern and Midlands are not going to get their money now, and those in other regional electricity companies stand a rather smaller chance of being taken over too.

The putting together of a generator and a distributor, ahead of the coming of the competitive market in 1998 that allows the one to sell to customers of the other, was the ideal next step in the consolidation of the industry, and the MMC, it is clear from the report, was not much against it. The Commission could see no way that an integrated company would be in a position to raise prices.

Mr Lang's decision seems to fly in the face of this. It also means that thousands of National Power shareholders will not be seeing their profits either once Southern of Atlanta plucks up courage and bids, because it will also have to be referred. Nor utor, Manweb, although the

A smell of burnt insulation

will the City institutions, who have been betting heavily on such an offer.

The political advantage is that we will not see a complete dismemberment of the power industry, courtesy of the Americans, just before the election. They have the option of selling all of their holding in the regional company South Westem as a condition of bidding again. But what odds that even then some reason for blocking a bid might be found?

When they flogged off the electricity industry it was ex-pected to prove a dull backwater of the stock market, a collection of identical utilities. Instead it has given rise to any number of shocks, and the bidding frenzy is not necessarily over. Yesterday's falls may turn out to be overdone.

The Lang decision throws up a few anomalies. First, pity poor PowerGen, whose bid, on the above analysis, has fallen foul of the Americans' designs on National Power. Second, Scottish Power, a generator, was earlier allowed to buy a regional distrib-

distinction could perhaps be made that they operate in dif-ferent markets, Scotland having

its own power industry. Third, what of Eastern, allowed to build up 12 per cent of the generating market? This has come about at the instigation of the regulator, who forced the generators to sell the plant and apparently approved this vertiintegration again yesterday. Those deals should surely now go to the MMC. But will a disgruntled National Power, whose sale clearly assumed a clearance, allow the deal to go ahead now, or hold off and damn the regulator to do his worst?

Open season on companies

☐ THERE is a mood of paranoia about in the boardroom. It is the annual meeting season again, and those who remember the horrors inflicted by shareholders in the past are keen to limit the damage this year.

The whole of company law as it relates to annual meetings and shareholders' rights, like much

PENNINGTON



in this sceptered isle, is in need of a good shake-up. Current law dates back to the days when most companies were family concerns, the meeting took place in the front parlour chaired by the family solicitor and all adjourned for a sherry afterwards.

Hence the archaic votes by

show of hands, only superseded by a poll of proxy votes it things get too controversial. Hence, too, those curious bands in accounts that spell out directors' salaries anonymously, a relic from more gentlemanly days. Hence the placing of articles of association, details of directors' service contracts and other juicy morsels safely behind glass at head office, away from the rude public gaze. These rules were not designed

for companies with shareholder bases running into several millions. Furthermore, this is the time of the active shareholder, and some boards are doing their best to limit their incursions.

מבין מניונקים

British Aerospace has had to backtrack on scrapping the annual vote on its report and accounts, which along with the non-appointment of directors up by rotation is the final nuclear trigger for disaffected investors. This was part of a raft of damage limitation measures aimed at protesters complaining about Hawk sales to Indonesia, but the company still wants to ditch votes on a show of hands.

The case for reform is compelling. Research due soon from Pensions and Investments Research Consultancy shows cases where genuine dissent, as registered by proxy votes, was stifled by a near-unanimous show of hands at the meeting. It also throws up the extraordinary fact that a fifth of all proxy votes are discretionary - in other words, handing over all power to the chairman rather than taking any firm line. How do you square active investment with

handing the company a large chunk of voting power to be used to shut out the views of those who actually bother to attend?

Sugar plays a blinder

☐ ENGLAND manager Terry Venables may have been win-ning plaudits for his football tactics yesterday but it was his erstwhile business partner Alan Sugar who was showing that when it comes to football club finance he is the master tactician. Sugar has scored a double

victory. He has pleased the fans by raising funds to rebuild the North London club's stadium without touching the club's pre-cious transfer money pool. But he has also satisfied the City by improving the shares' poor liquidity and hinting that Tottenham is serious about dividends. By reducing his stake to 40 per

cent without selling, Mr Sugar has cleverly sidestepped any accusations of treachery that may have echoed from the terraces. He seems to have learnt a little about the psychology of

fans from the sudden and unhappy departure last summer of star player Jürgen Klinsmann. In future crises he can emphasise his long-term loyalty while point-ing to the fact that he no longer

has majority control.

But football is, who could resist the phrase, a game of two halves and Tottenham has a long way to go before it can be compared with Manchester United as an investment opportunity. Mr Sugar admitted as much yesterday when he said that the club still had a lot of work to do before it had fully utilised all its assets. A few trophies in the boardroom would also help, but until then the club, like the rest, remains dangerously sensitive to the weekly results on the field.

Payoff punchline

☐ THE intra-tribal warfare at Littlewoods, between those who want the money and those who want the world to stop turning, has left three corpses. None of them family members, naturally; they include a former chief executive and, the latest, a departing chairman. We are not told whether he was on a revolving contract that would serve to boost his compensation payoff. But if James Ross, his successor, has any sense he will make very certain that he is.

Australian boost at Bank of Scotland

By Patricia Tehan, banking correspondent

BANK of Scotland yesterday proved that its decision to build up an Australian business instead of following the recent trend of banks to buy building societies had paid off when it announced a 21 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £545 million.

Sir Bruce Pattullo, governor, said that although he would never rule out the possibility of buying a building society, the bank had decided that the acquisition of a 51 per cent stake in Bank of Western Australia was a better use of its capital.

He said that the prices being paid for societies were too high. "The building society movement has had its day."

The bank intends to split the role of chairman and chief executive combined by Sir Bruce since 1991. Peter Burt, treasurer and chief general manager, will become chief executive in June. Sir Bruce will remain chairman.

Excluding non-recurring items, profits were £484.4 million, with growth at 16 per cent. Bad debt provisions fell from £221.5 million to £177.1

million. The main clearing bank operations contributed £333.7 million before tax, up 13 per cent. NWS Bank, the consumer credit business, increased profits 6 per cent to £121.7 million in spite of a 17 per cent increase in costs.

Profits at British Linen Bank, its merchant banking arm, more than doubled to £36 million. Kellock, the factoring operation, held profits at £4.2 million. The contribution from Countrywide Banking Corporation, its New Zealand bank, was £5.1 million higher at £26.7 million. The first-time contribution from Bank of Western Australia, for the three months to February 29, was £19.7 million.

About 14,000 staff will benefit from a £31.5 million profitsharing pot. They will receive per cent of their salaries, which assuming an average salary of £15,000 is an average of £2,250.

The dividend for the year has been increased to 6.85p, up 17.7 per cent, with the final payment of 4.4p payable on

Tempus, page 28

Forte close to bidding for hotels

By Clare Stewart

PLANS for Sir Rocco Forte's return to the hotel industry are nearing completion with details of a major City funding package due within weeks.

Sir Rocco, who lost control of the Forte group in January after a bitterly fought £3.8 billion battle with Granada, is said to be near to securing up to £t billion of City backing to help to finance a bid for former Forte hotels that Granada is looking to seil.

"Matters are at a sensitive stage," said a spokesman for Sir Rocco. It is thought that he and his team are talking to a number of City investment banks and venture capital groups, and that details of the funding will be finalised soon. Sir Rocco announced his intention to return to hotels after Granada's victory, with his sights set on the Meridien and Exclusive hotels.

JJB Sports shoots ahead to defy City

By Clare Stewart

JJB SPORTS, the sports retailer, notched up another top performance as pre-tax profits leapt 70 per cent to £12.9 million in the year to January 31, beating City expectations.

However, the prolonged winter is blamed for early season problems. David Whelan, J.B's chairman and a former Blackburn Rovers footballer, said: "Five weeks ago trading was 3 per cent down on a like-for-like basis."

Rapid expansion helped to lift turnover 48 per cent to £89.6 million, with like-for-like sales ahead 15 per cent. The Wigan-based group opened 25 stores, taking the chain to 148 outlets at the year end. A further 40 sites are planned this year.

JJB also announced a twofor-one bonus share issue. A final dividend of 6p gives a

Tottenham £11m cash call for rebuilding

By Alasdair Murray

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR, at 280p a share on a one-forthe football club, yesterday launched an £11 million rights issue to help to fund the rebuilding of its White Hart Lane stadium in north London (see Pennington, this page).

The move will also improve

liquidity at the club, with Alan Sugar, chairman, waiving his right to take up the new shares, reducing his holding from 51

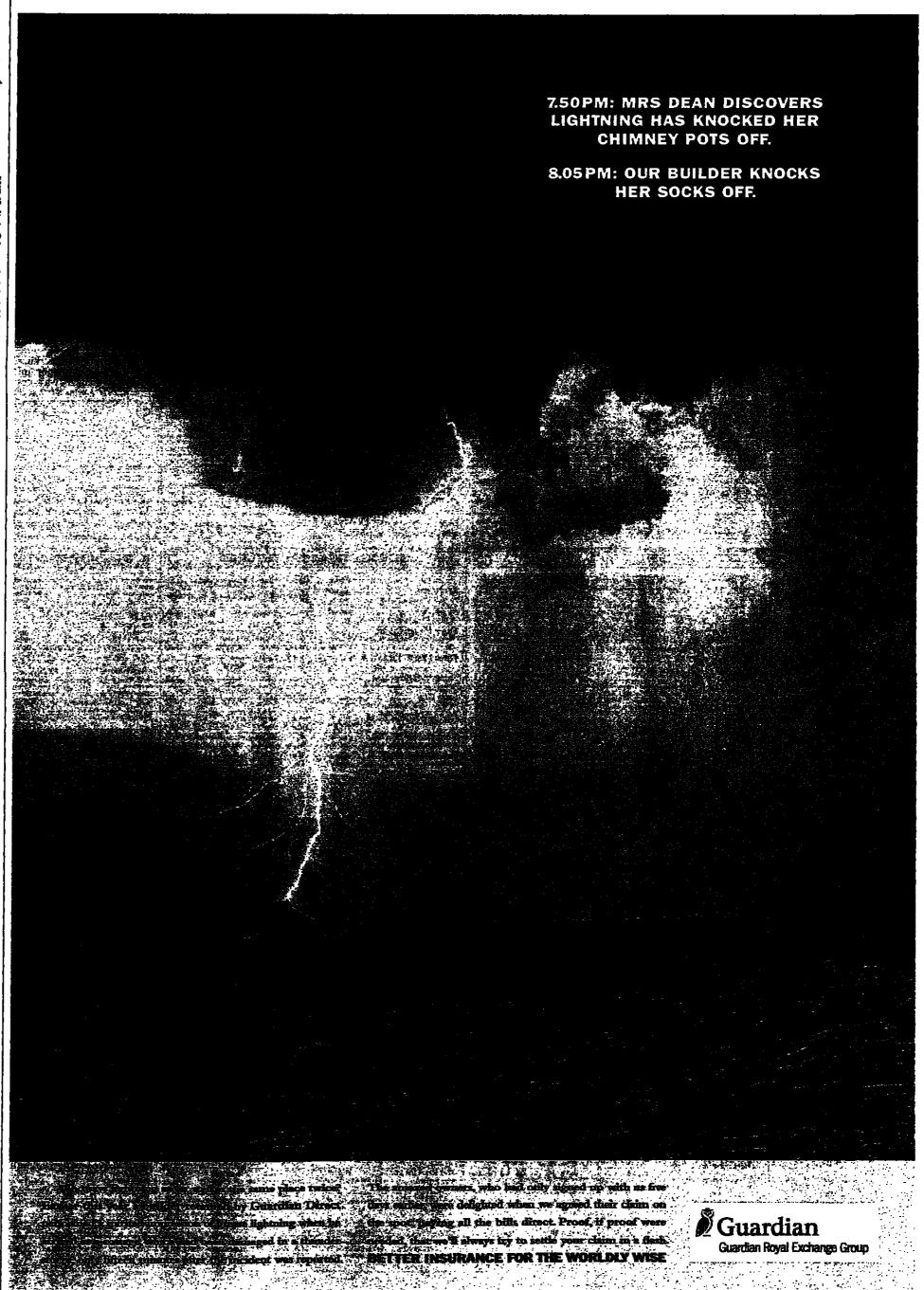
per cent to about 41 per cent.

The club said Mr Sugar's allocation would instead be placed with new institutional investors. A total of four million new shares will be offered

four basis. Dealings in the new shares will start today. Mr Sugar insisted that he would not reduce his stake further. He said: "I could have sold shares and seen the money go into my own pocket, but we went for the rights

issue so the money went into

the dub." Tottenham said that trading had been good during the second half of the year and forecast a final dividend of 3p giving a total divdend of 4.5p. an increase of 50 per cent on



STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Speculators count cost of blocked power bids

THE smell of burnt fingers wafted around the market place as City speculators began counting the cost of the Government's decision to block the two power bids.

There was a knee-jerk reaction to the news that National Power's bid for Southern Electric and PowerGen's offer for Midlands Electricity were regarded by the Government as against the public interest. Prices managed to close above their worst of the day but losses were still recorded in National Power, down 32p at 564p on turnover of 22 million shares, PowerGen. 3op off at 570p. Southern Electric. 79p lower at 824p, and Midlands, 40p cheaper at 371p.

It had been assumed that the bids would be allowed to proceed, especially in the light of the proposed offer by Southern Company, the US utility, for National Power which reacted by issuing terms for the similarly named Southern Electric.

Now the speculators have been left wondering if the US utility, which already owns South Western Electricity, will be allowed to press home its advantage.

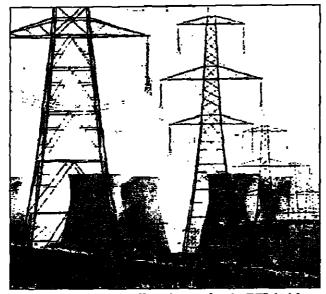
But the four companies

involved were not the only casualties of the Government's decision. Double-figure losses were also recorded in East Midland, down 46p to 618p, **London**, 37p to 807p. Northern, 38p to 670p, and Yorkshire, 43p to 826p. Among the other generators, Scottish Power dropped 19p to 373p, and Scottish Hydro fell 13p to 355p.

This dramatic turn of events also took its toll on the rest of the market which, up until the Government's announcement. had been trading in positive territory for much of the day. In the event, the FT-SE 100 index lost an 11-point lead to finish 15.4 down on the day at 3.817.6. The fall was compounded by a sharp opening fall by the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street.

The total shares changing hands reached 970 million enhanced by heavy turnover, yet again, in Ladbroke, up Op to a new high of 2051/2p as a total of 26.3 million shares were traded. Speculators say approach soon. Possible suitors include Hilton Hotels of the US. Bass, Ip lighter at 785p. and Scottish & Newcastle, unchanged

"你就用



Generators and Recs suffered losses after the DTI decision

ICI was a firm market, climbing 24p to 954p ahead of first-quarter figures today expected to show a profits

One of the best moves on the day was seen in The Telegraph, publisher of The Daily Telegraph, which soared 96p to 559p, almost matching terms of a minority bid by Hollinger, the company con-

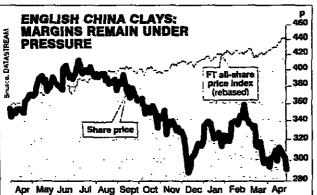
Rentokil's Clive Thompson was talking to institutions hoping to obtain their support for his group's £2.1 billion bid for BET. Earlier this week, three institutions, including M&G Investment Management, BZW Investment Management and Hermes put their weight behind the BET board and said they would be rejecting the increased offer of

Asda, the supermarket chain, slipped 12p to 1112p in heavy trading that saw more than 11 million shares change hands, after one leading broker slashed its forecast. NatWest Securities has turned cautious of Asda, cutting its pre-tax profit estimate for the current year to April 1997, by £12 million to £240 million.

trolled by Conrad Black, the publisher. But there was little celebrating among City investors after last year's failed attempt to take the company Telegraph also directed attention at other newspaper publishers. Daily Mail and General Trust rose 120p to £17.05. Mirror Group 5p to 235p, and United News & Media 10p to 685p.

217p a share from Rentokil, down lp at 352. BET also lost 12p at 201p.

Another warning about difficult trading conditions left English China Clays nursing a fall of 12p at 29lp. Lawrence Urquhart, chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that the weak trading of the final quarter last year had continued into the first quarter this time round. Con-



Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr COMMODITIES

production rates in paper milis were still low.

The City gave a lukewarm reception to full-year figures from Bank of Scotland which at first revealed a creditable performance showing pre-tax profits soaring from £449 million to £545 million. But closer inspection revealed the figures had been bolstered by one-off profit contributions and a sharp drop in the provision for bad and doubtful debts. The shares responded with a fall of 7p to 25lp.

Tottenham Hotspur jumped 14p to a new high of 324p after the north London football club announced plans to raise almost Ell million by way of a rights issue. The proceeds will be used to construct a new stand at its White Hart Lane stadium.

A bumper set of figures and encouraging remarks about current trading lifted Bentalls, the department store retailer, llp to IIIp.

Modest demand in a thin market hoisted Domnick Hunter, the engineer, 29p to a new high of 394p. Marketmakers will normally only make a price in 5,000 shares at

Shares in Active Imaging made a positive start to trading on the Alternative Investment Market after a placing of shares by Beeson Gregory, the broker, at 112p. The group started life at 128p and touched 138p before settling at 133p, a premium of 21p.

Elsewhere on the AIM. Corporation held steady at 13p after a placing of 3.74 million new shares at 11p. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Traders had to contend with a volatile market as bids went in for the latest auction. The issue, £3 billion of Treasury 712 per cent 2006, was 2.65 times subscribed with investors paying a total of £7.95 billion. Once it became clear that the issue had been got away safely. prices in the rest of the market came off the boil.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt fell five Treasury 8 per cent 2015 fell shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a tick easier at

□ NEW YORK: Wall Street was troubled by program bond market. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 35.05 at 5.553.54.

22282.05 (+162.17) Hong Kong Amsterdam: Sydney: 2322-10 (+22-10) Frankfurt Singapore Brussels: Paris: 212210+10.12) Zurich: London 3817.6 (-15.4) ... 4544.7 (+4.6) FT-SE MId 250 1930.9 1-5.60 , 2045.32 (-5,44) ... 112.26 (+0.16) ... 92.67 (+0.25) FT Govt Secs USS ______ 1.5128 (-0.0018) German Mark _____ 2.3022 (+0.0032)

MAJOR INDICES

RPI 151.5 Mar (2.7%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX 150.9 Mar (2.9%) Jan 1987=100 RECENT ISSUES Active Imaging Advent VCT British Smaller Co's 95 Cambridge Wtr NV 303 Cap for Co's VCT (100) 95 Cardcast (85) Cliveden (73) Dicom Group (270) 330 Easynet Group (100) F1 Group (235) Gartmore VCT Hill Sml UK Emg Cos 97 **Hurlingham Props** ILP Group (75) Orange (205) Pacific Horizon Wis Pennine AlM VCT Quester VCT Raphael Zorn (32) ~ 3 Rebus Romtec Scottish Asian C Silver Shield (3) Taverners Trust Uts 518

Bank of England official close (4pt

RIGHTS ISSUES

Templeton C&E Euro 25

Barratt Dev n/p (200) 71	- 2
Bernrose n/p (325) 65	+ 2
Benson Group n/p (40) 1'-	– j
Cap Reg 675% CLS n/p 5	- 1
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Flare n/p (150) 8	
Guinness Peat n/p (30) 61:	
Ind Cnt Svc n/p (90) 21	
Tepnel Life n/p (40) 27	+ 2

MAJOR CHANGES

71 3 こ3.	
Bentalis	111p (+11p)
Dencora	155p (÷12p)
\$&U U&\$	401p (-20p)
egasus	250p (~10p)
FALLS:	
Anagen	. 47p (-10p)
Memory Corp	200p /-30p)
Filtronic Com	. 423p (-12p)
OFS Furniture	. 513p (-12p)
Closing Prices F	Page 31

TEMPUS

A victim of the market

developer. In the final week of the bid, it woke up and rallied a lew institutions to its cause. persuading one to endorse publicly the management. The company asked institutions to ignore years of underperformance and focus on the last two when it has clearly delivered some good growth. Yesterday it mischievously published some research which suggested that bidders that issue paper tend to underperform after the takeover, and that Rentokil might do likewise.

The research is not new and shareholders in BET would be wise to note that investors in targets do tend to do better than investors in bidding companies. The costs of the bid alone could top £100 million, enough to wipe out BET's profits last year and for shareholders, the logical conclusion is to take the cash

BET is living up to its reputation as a late available - Rentokil could be buying again today - and avoid the overheated shares.

Known supporters of BET currently total 17.5 per cent of the share capital and they are interesting for being of a similar ilk - fund managers that seek undervalued stocks and who tend to support managements long term. Many of the funds that sold out to Rentokil this week were also turning up their nose at Rentokil shares - too highly rated, they sniffed.

If BET loses on Friday, it will be in good part a casualty of a market that has lost interest in recovery stocks. The recent performance of fund managers like M&G is evidence alone but investors should be suspicious of a share market that is chasing bid rumours and pushing up the price of highly rated "growth stocks". A correction looks overdue.

Bank of Scotland

A STOCK market obsessed with cash windfalls, bids and other short-term gains had no time to listen to Bank of Scotland yesterday and gave the thumbs down to its cost increase. Granted, the bank's figures were confusing given the profusion of non-recurring items and a first-time contribution from Bank of Western Australia. Investment in staff and systems sent the bank's cost-income ratio from 49.8 to 52.1 per cent. Excluding exceptional revenue gains, the figure worsens to 53.4 per cent.

Expenditure will remain high this year, keeping the cost-income ratio static, but the critics forget that the BofS ratio is miles below those of its competitors. NatWest, for example is 67.9 per cent, and the best it can hope for is a reduction to 58

The bank's Australian acisition was well received. In hindsight, BofS was wise to put its money overseas rather than in a mediumsized building society operating in a stagnant market. The bank's shares are trad-

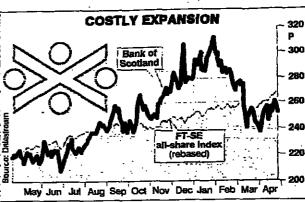
per cent in the UK by the

year 2000. Meanwhile, Bank

of Scotland should get back

to normal levels next year.

ing on a prospective priceearnings ratio of 9.65, lower than the sector average of 10.3 times, Critics of Bank of Scotland knock its conservatism, but when the bank invests, they then criticise it for increasing costs. That is a - its investment in NWS is clearly paying off with increased profits. Inves-tors need a little patience.



Platinum

IF YOU felt secure in your knowledge of Europe's borders, think again, because the European Commission believes they extend as far as Johannesburg. The Competition Commissioner has decided to block the platinum merger between Lonrho and Gencor, arguing that it would create a dominant duopoly between Impala, the merged venture, with 25 per cent of the market, and Anglo American, which accounts for 35 per cent of the world's olatinum. American regulators wili

be amused to watch the Commission's extraterritorial jurisdiction - Europe has often objected to the long Trade Commission. More questionable is the likely effect of the ruling. The commissioner clearly fears that the platinum price is being fixed over lunch in Joburg. Were that the case, blocking the Lonrho/Gencor

DOLLAR RATES

Denmark

1.2742-1.2750

... 10.70-10.71 ... 31.25-31.29

1.3600-1.3605 5.8635-5.8685 5.1395-5.1410 1.5210-1.5215 7.7353-7.7363

deal will solve little. Before the merger the two companies were already holding hands, with Impala owning 27 per cent of Lonrho's platinum operation while Gencor had 46.5 per cent of Impala.

Europe is a large consumer of platinum, but its consumption of 0.8 million ounces nales beside Janan, which absorbs 2.2 million ounces, mainly in lewellery, out of the 4.7 million produced worldwide annually. But the main influence on the price is Russia, which has about a quarter of the market and is selling off its stockpiles of the metal in search of hard

The Commission's desire to kill off another cosy South African cartel may be welcomed, even in that country. but it has probably achieved only a propaganda victory. Even now, Anglo American is amassing shares in Lonrho and the prospect of a merger of the platinum interests of those two companies would doubtless be even less tolera-

CUITERICY.

solved over lunch in Joburg. just as the Competition Commissioner feared.

ble. In the end, this little

problem will probably be

Amersham

THE market seems to have forgotten that Amersham promised an extension of its interest in Nihon Medi-Physics, Amersham's nuclear medicine joint venture with Sumitomo Chemical In the event, it has done the deed earlier and for a better price.

The result is a boost to earnings of about 8 per cent. but even more interesting is the creation an Anglo-Saxon and Japanese joint venture in Japan. Such animals are normally confined to distribution, but Amersham has achieved the trick of putting together medical research and manufacturing to give it a half share in 60 per cent of the Japanese market for nuclear medicine.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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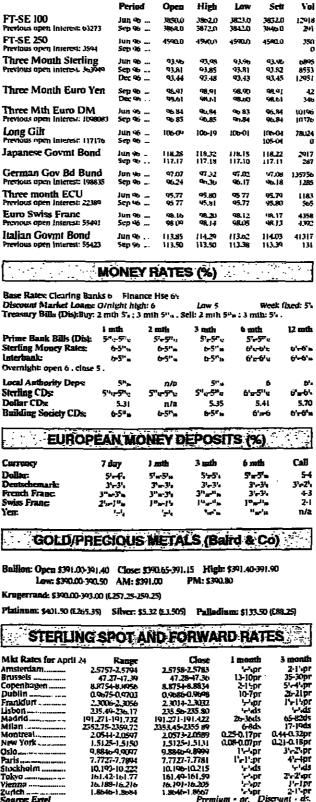
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Jul 1970-1966 Mar 1930-1905 Sep (962-1959 May 1900-1880	Gasoit EEC	Jun unq 225.0 }
Nov 1958-1953 Volume 7674	Non EEC 1H 3n 171 (+2) 174 (+3)	Nov 105.0
WHITE SUGAR (FOB)	3.5 Fuel Oil	Volume: 30
Reuters Mar 326.0-25.0	•	RUBBER (No I RSS CE p/k)
Spot 189.5 May 325/3-23/0 Aug 367,5-65/3 Aug 327/3-24.1	IPE FUTURES (GNI Let) GAS OIL	May 99,00-90.50
Oct 341.5-41.0 Oct 317.0-14.1	May 174.00-74.25 Aug . 165.50-65.75	BIFFEX (GNI Ltd \$10/pt)
Dec 334.5-33.5 Volume: 1267	Jun 169.25-69.50 Sep 164.75 SLR	High Low Close
	Jul 166.50-66.75 Vol: 12530	Apr 96 1470 1470 1463
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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES



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Massaging their egos

LIFE is fun at the Institute of Directors. Not only has an in-house wine bar opened at the IoD's Pall Mall heaquarters, but business. men attending yesterday's IoD conference at the Royal Albert Hall were treated to on-site massage, courtesy of Champneys. Mean-while, the innovation of electronic voting leaves room for confusion. Asked to register their gender, 83.7 per cent of delegates declared themselves men, and 14.9 per cent said they were women. Decisively, 1.4 per cent did not know.

Hot water

FIFTLY EXPANSION

EVEN the loD's celebrated lunchbox didn't escape the heated European de-bate. In place of beef, conventioneers were treated to cold lamb chops, washed down with Californian Sauvignon Blanc. The French butter passed without comment, but arch-Eurosceptic Lord Tebbit, who proposed the motion against a single currency, seized on the Perrier bottles to highlight the openness of Britain's economy. "Can you imagine the French employers' organisation offering Malvern water at their annual conference?" he asked.



AFTER watching hostile bidder Rentokil make blunder after blunder in the course of its bid, BET managed one of its own yesterday. In a jumbled metaphor, John Clark. chairman of BET, sniped: "Rentokil's future balance sheet weakness surely means the kettle is trying to call the pot black."

Power failure

WE think we've cracked why Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and President of the Board of Trade, made the completely unexpected de-cision to block the power bids yesterday. In early copies of the Monopolies and Mergers Commis-sion's reports, pages 27 to 58 were not only bound upside down, but were also in the wrong order.

WAGE inflation has hit the Treasury. Unable to fill the chief executive's vacancy at the National Savings department, more than six months after the departure of David Butler, a new adver-tisement for the slot this week raises the salary from £80,000 to £100,000 or more for an exception-al candidate.

Dry sugar

IT WAS a gentie amble for Alan Sugar yesterday, from his luxury yacht moored alongside Tower Bridge to his broker's office for the announcement of Tottenham Hotspur's share issue. The yacht boasts a cinema and hot air balloon. When asked if he had been for an early morning swim, Sugar sniffed: "Certainly not. I have other people to do that for me.

WILE Jack Straw jump to the defence of his baby brother, after Gordon Brown accused accountancy firms yesterday of dealing in "rumours and lies"? Édward the shadow Home Secretary's 47-yearold brother, has been a partner at Coopers 8 Lybrand since 1982.

MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW

INVESTORS ARE INDIFFERENT BETWEEN

THE FRANC AND THE MARK ...



ANATOLE KALETSKY

1001.00 1.50

... THE FRANC IS BACK IN ITS

OLD ERM BAND

Shift in German mood fuels single currency momentum

Weakening of the mark in

> relation to flimsy franc

buoys case

for union

n the month I spent immersed in the parochial concerns of British electoral politics and the Labour Party, momentous events have happened in the economic world, particularly in Europe. The linancial markets' flirtation with European Monetary Union - whose mounting ardour I disapprovingly described in several Economic Views between Christmas and Easter seems to have blossomed into

a full-scale love affair. The financial markets are now taking the formation of a monetary union involving Germany, France, Austria and the Benelux countries completely for granted. They are also assuming that the single currency will be created on time in January 1999.

This is evidenced by the dramatic strengthening of the French franc and the near disappearance of the usual spread between German and French bond yields. The French still do pay a tiny premium of 0.06 percentage points on their ten-year bonds, but this is fully explained by the small difference between short-term interest rates in the two countries, which investors expect to persist until EMU is consummated in 1999.

After that date there is absolutely no difference between expected interest rates in the two countries.

In effect, the world's moneymanagers are now saying that they are completely indifferent as between holding francs or holding marks. To be more precise they are not saying this, since most remain Eurosceptical and awed by the Instead they are doing something far more important. They are betting their money on a concept that their minds cannot yet quite accept - that the mighty mark will, in future, be no stronger than the

flimsy franc. In fact, according to the rates on forward bond-swaps provided by Alison Cottrell of PaineWebber International, the market is expecting French interest rates to be marginally lower than German ones by 1999 (a bizarre, but highly significant, reversal of the usual relationship first report-

months ago). One reason why the mar-kets have embraced so totally the concept of a single currency is that political momentum for EMU is building all the time. The political event was the Baden-Wurtemberg election on March 24.

ed in this column three

I said back in March that this one vote could do more to settle the future of Europe than any number of economic debates or White Papers. And in the event it did. The social democrats who tried to run an fields on 18 year government bonds _ AND PERIPHERAL CURRENCIES ARE PREPARING TO REJOIN THE ERM

THE MARKETS NOW TAKE MONETARY UNION FOR GRANTED

monetary union did so for the first (and probably last) time in German history. The people showed no interest whatsoever in the subject and voted in droves against the SPD. Kohl's coalition Helmut emerged triumphant and his faith in "the European construction" was reaffirmed.

More recently there has been a better publicised boost for EMU from last weekend's Italian election. The victory for Romano Prodi's "Olive Tree" coalition is important not so much because the Italian Left are more pro-European than the Right. The idea that an Italy led by Silvio Berlusconi might one day become an ally German juggernaut was never more than a fanatasy of the Tory Right.

Antonio Martino, the supposedly Europhobic former foreign minister in the Berlusconi Government, once remarked to me: "I am a Eurosceptic by Italian standards, which means that on the British spectrum I would be considered a moderate pro-

The real significance of the left-wing victory on Sunday is that Italy may now enjoy a period of stable and perhaps even responsible government. Even if this happens, Italy will not become a founder-member of EMU, but the chances of Italian political and financial instability undermining the entire project will be much

The reasons why Italy will certainly not join EMU in 1999 are worth considering further. For they tell us as much about the single currency, its method of implementation — and its implications for Britain - as they do about Italy.

Italy will not, of course, meet the Maastricht convergence

decisions are due to be made. But then, neither will Belgium, The Netherlands or France. Indeed it is quite possible that Germany will fall foul of both the key targets: a government deficit below 3 per cent of GDP and gross public debt of less than 60 per cent of GDP.

The International Monetary Fund forecast last week that, on present policies, Germany would have a deficit of 3.4 per cent and a public debt of 61.1 per cent in 1997, while France's deficit would be 3.6 per cent. And if those overshoots look moderate consider the debt forecasts for Belgium and The Netherlands: 131 per cent and

that a single currency will happen, even though the

Financial markets are taking for granted the formation of a [restricted] EMU

Maastricht targets are clearly out of reach? And why are they equally confident that a nearbankrupt country like Belgium will become a foundermember, while Italy (and Britain) will not?

The main answer lies, as ever, in German politics. The defeat of the anti-EMU campaign in Baden-Wurttemberg did not merely show that the Germans were relatively immune to populist campaigns about preserving "our mark". It also suggested something more subtle - German public opinion no longer sees EMU as a black and white issue.

First, the Germans have een the dark side of that old

mark is a good mark". The Germans now want the mark to weaken, not only against the dollar and the yen, but also against the lira, the pound and the Swedish crown. That removes one of the main sources of friction between Germany and France, since France has always wanted the weakest currency it could have without

alienating the Germans. The second subtle point the German public has increasingly grasped is the distinction between a monetary union embracing the whole of Europe and a German-dominated hard core. Polls have shown that a monetary union involving only Germany. lux countries enjoys 70 per cent public support. But if Italy or Spain is included in such an arrangement support immediately drops to 40 per

One reason the Germans are becoming more relaxed about EMU is that their politicians, bankers and businessmen are quietly reassuring them that improvident Mediteraranean countries will not be allowed to join.

cent or less.

The Maastricht criteria leave plenty of scope to achieve this result. But the problem is that a single currency without the "Club Med" would be almost pointless. One of the main functions of EMU from the German and French standpoint is to stop their neighbours improving their competitiveness by devaluing.

This is the problem addressed by the new-style ERM demanded by France (with the usual German support). If Italy and other peripheral countries can be forced to tie their currencies to the euro and to cede control of domestic policies to the European Central Bank, then the threat of "competitive devaluations"

Telecom giants face hitch at the altar

Eric Reguly on the German dilemma facing BT and Cable and Wireless

Then Veba, Germany's fourth-largest company. V Company. learnithat Cable and Wireless and BT were in merger discussions, it sensed a oncein-a-lifetime chance to influence, and ultimately benefit from, the formation of a £35 billion global telecoms group. Veba owns 10.5 per cent of C&W, and the com-panies have formed two joint ventures — Vebacom and Cable and Wireless Europe - to tackle the deregulating phone market in Germany

continent. But Veba faced one potentially insurmountable obsta-cle. BT also had a German partner in the form of Viag, another corporate giant with grand designs on the German telecoms market. Last year, BT and Viag formed a joint venture called Viag Interkom, pledged to invest £600 million in it over five years and recruited RWE. one of Germany's largest

and elsewhere on the

utilities, as a partner.
Since C&W and BT had competing telecoms com-panies in Germany, it be-

came clear that one of them would have to go if C&W and BT merged. Deciding which of the joint ventures is to be sacrificed

after 1999 can be averted

without allowing them to be-

come founder-members of

EMU, and thereby forfeiting

The quid pro quo would be

tacit understanding with

italy and the others that they

would be admitted to EMU.

on relatively easy terms, a few

Until this week the plan for an ERM II was looking dicey because Italy, the main coun-try for which the new strait-

iacket was designed, seemed

destined to remain too unsta-

ble to join. That calculation

may well have been reversed

ERM within weeks - and if

Italy does so, then Sweden and

Finland, the two other hold-

outs, may soon follow. Britain

will then be the only EU

country determined to stay

outside both EMU and the

ERM. As usual, Britain will be

in a minority of one.

The new Italian government

by this week's election.

years later.

German public support.

obstacles to reaching a merg-er agreement between C&W and BT, and time is running out because they hope to make a formal merger announcement within a few weeks. One executive close to the negotiations said: "Fixing the German situation is a big

Veba, however, has been equally adamant that its interests should not be sacrificed and, in effect, issued a threat. It made it clear that it would not support the C&W-BT merger if its demands were not met. With a 10.5 per

cent stake in C&W and a seat on its board, Veba is in a more powerful negotiating position than Viag. Veba probably lacks the clout to stop the merger, but could certainly hinder it.

Veba appears to have the upper hand. Observers say that BT would be foolish to alienate a major C&W shareholder and is beginning to see the business logic of keeping the C&W European alliances in the group's portfolio. They note that Viag Interkom, its partnership with Viag, is somewhat less developed that C&W's and may have a better chance at putting a dent in Deutsche

Vebacom, the larger of

6 Veba lacks the clout to stop the merger, but

has emerged as one of main

For several months now, Veba and Viag have been putting their cases to the top executives at C&W and BT. Viag even went public with its plea. In a statement, it said: "Viag and BT wish to state that the [C&W-BT merger] discussions will not disturb the existing collabor-ation. The broadening of the Viag-BT alliance with RWE has precedence over any

Telekom's market after deregulation in 1998.

C&W's two joint ventures with Veba, had sales of DM339 million last year and hopes to achieve sales of more than DM8 billion by 2003, becoming the single biggest competitor to Deut-sche Telekom. Veba has in-vested about DM1.2 billion in Vebacom and a further DM2.2 billion for 10.5 per cent of C&W. Vebacom's

portfolio of services and investments is Interkom's. It has a public telephony busi-

could hinder it 9 ness, a corporate network service, three cable investments with 1.2 million customers and a clutch of mobile phone interests, including a 28 per cent stake in E Plus, one of Germany's fastestgrowing players in the sector. Viag Interkom has no mobile phone investments. But

it does distribute international business telephony prod-ucts, called Concert, developed by BT and MCI. America's second-largest long-distance phone company. Viag and RWE can also provide Viag Interkom with a natio-nwide network of high-capacity fibre-optic cables.

Although Veba has more

influence than Viag over the outcome of the merger talks, Viag shows no signs of abandoning the fight. It argues has, if anything, become closer since the merger talks began last year and that its partnership agreement with BT is legally binding. If Viag Interkom is ditched, Viag may be able to extract a hefty payment from BT as a consoation prize.

criteria in April 1998, when the Bundesbank slogan "a strong honest campaign against

Look at conversions to find missing VAT millions From Mr Michael J. Flint

Sir. The Treasury's cost-cutting culture may not necessarily account for the shortfall in value-added tax receipts, as implied by Robert Bruce (Audit, April 18). Having lost the battle of Jaffa Cake, HM Customs and Excise have used their ample resources to target some other marginal areas of VAT, such as orange juice (freshly pressed juice no longer excused), hot-air balloon rides, and alterations to residential listed buildings which are deemed to be under maintenance and repair (which has become quite a tricky subject);

church bells are another trouble spot. Somewhat curious therefore, and possibly related to the shortfall, was the generous and unexpected introduction of a relief for conversions of non-residential buildings into dwellings provided that the developer granted a long lease of the converted building or

sold it outright. The forecast of VAT foregone, made when the zerorating was introduced in July

1994 as a concession, was only £20 million. A legal order in March 1995 confirmed the terms of the relief.

Given the number of conversion projects which have been featured in property and homes pages in the The Times, ranging from small schemes to the large and prestigious, it is worth considering whether the forecast should be multiplied many times over to be more realistic. As an example, I have taken the figures related to the conversion of Lavender

Hill School into flats (Property feature, April 13) and estimate a total VAT refund entitlement of something be-tween £500,000 and £700,000 on just this one medium-size scheme. Most of this will rightfully be picked up by the development company as input tax, but the eventual purchasers of the 30 bare 'shell" units to be sold by the developer could be individually able to make VAT claims totalling £200,000, an estimate based on the likely cost of completing the conversion of each unit given to be between £20,000 and £50,000. The new relief was intended to be easy to obtain and fairly simple tax planning measures

can be taken by developers to fully recover VAT on the cost of converting all sorts of buildings, from old barns, churches and water towers to the largest commercial or office building, provided that the end-use is residential and that the flats or whatever are sold off. Anyone converting their own barn or anything else into a dwelling on a DIY basis can also have the VAT back, so long as they are not doing it as a business. That's where I would look

for some disappearing VAT. But as a former "gamekeeper" (a VAT inspector, whose local office closed down) about to start poaching, I would know where to look, wouldn't I? M.J. FLINT (Value added tax specialist). 16 Paynsbridge Way,

Sir, In The Times (April 22) you carried a four-page spread on the Queen's Awards that also contained 22 advertisements from some of the companies that have won awards. Only one of these advertisements had an Internet site (URL), another one had an e-mail address, but mostly they displayed their phone numbers. Is this a symptom that we, here in the UK, are lagging far

organisation as a set of legal successful companies are wisely ignoring media-in-duced hyperbole?

a few more were at least trying out this method of disseminating information about themselves just in case. Yours sincerely, IAN RODERICK,

Sidelands House, Chew Magna, Bristol.

Lagging behind in the UK? From Mr Ian Roderick

behind the redefinition of the and moral responsibilities attached to a World Wide Web site, or does it mean that I would have been happier if

Dovetail Information Systems,

FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY NOTICE OF

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SCOTTISH WIDOWS

Notice is hereby given that the 182nd Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held at the Head Office, 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh on Tuesday 7 May 1996 at 2.30pm for the following purposes:

- . To consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December 1995 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.
- To re-elect Mr R H Davey, Mr W H Main, Dr C Masters and Mr D C Ritchie as Directors.
- To fix the remuneration of Directors.
- To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors.
- To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors for the current year.
- To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General

Forms of Proxy for the use of Members of the Society who are unable to be present at the Meeting, but who may wish to vote, may be obtained on application to the undersigned. To be effective, Proxies must reach the Society's Head Office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the Meeting. A proxy need not be a Member of the Society.

Questions may be submitted from Members who themselves or through their Proxy intend to be present at the Meeting. These should be in writing and lodged with the undersigned not less than four clear working days before the Meeting.

T B Houston SSC

Group Legal Adviser and Secretary

15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh EH (6 5BU

3 April 1996

Bankers for Energy flotation

The July privatisation of British Energy, the nuclear power group, is to be handled by Cazenove & Co. HSBC Investment Bank. Mediobanca-Banca di Credito Finanzario, Morgan Stanley: Nikko Europe: Paribas Capital Markets; and West Merchant Bank.

They will work with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, global co-ordinator for the offer. which is expected to put a price of about £2.5 billion on the company.

S&U ahead

S&U, the financial services business, lifted pre-tax profits by 16 per cent, to £7 million, in the year to January 31, its tenth successive year of profit growth. Sales rose to £64.72 million, from E61.79 million. A 12.5p final dividend, up 31.58 per cent, makes lóp, up 28 per cent.

Pub change

Paramount, the pub company, has lost the contract to manage Wirral Taverns after the sale of the 39-pub chain by Whitbread. Paramount said that loss of the contract, worth about £125,000 last year, would have little impact on its results for the year to May 31.

Offer for Elys

Panther Securities, the quoted property company. has raised the lower tier of its cash offer for Elys (Wimbledon), the store group. by 40p a share, making the new offer worth 525p. The weighted average price for full accep-tance is now 600p.

Oxford deal

Oxford Instruments, maker of scientific equipment, has bought WA Technology, of Cambridge, from its five shareholders for an undisclosed sum, after three years collaboration.

Venture total

The first 12 venture capital trusts, replacement for business expansion schemes, have raised more than £150 million since their September launch, the Treasury said vesterday.



in £36.5 million. There is a final dividend of 2.25p (l.25p). Earnings were down 82 per cent to 1.74p. Grenville Peacock, right, Bentalls chief executive, with John Ryan, the group's finance and property director EU blocks Lonrho-Gencor link

By Jon Ashworth

THE European Commission has blocked Lonrho and Gencor from creating a new platinum giant because of fears that the company and its only rival. Anglo American. would use their stranglehold to fix prices. Karel Van Miert, European

Competition Commissioner. said the proposed link-up would have created a duopoly dominating the world markets

OIL and gas production hit

record levels last year, while

Tim Eggar, Energy Minister,

forecast that underground re-

serves could stretch into the

middle of the next century

According to Department

of Trade and Industry statis-

tics for output around Britain.

oil production rose to 130

million tonnes from 127 mil-

(Christine Buckley writes).

for platinum and rhodium. He also gave a warning that any takeover bid for Lonrho by Anglo American would be opposed on similar grounds by his powerful anti-trust directorship.

Although the newly merged entity would have been based in South Africa, it came under the Commission's jurisdiction because the two parent companies have a combined turnover of more than \$6.5 billion a year and more than \$325

production increased to 75 billion cubic metres from 70

Income from oil and gas

production last year was £18

billion with gas contributing

£4 billion. Investment in the

industry rose 19 per cent to

£4.2 billion, which is nearly a

fifth of all investment made in

Britain's industry. The contri-

billion cubic metres.

million each within the European Union. Dieter Bock, chief executive

over platinum price-fixing fear

of Lonrho, expressed surprise at the decision, but said Lonrho's platinum operations were unaffected. He was puzzled that the Commission had chosen to prevent a transaction to which European consumers had very little exposure and over which few. if any, had reservations.

bution from oil to the balance

of payments was estimated at

£4 billion. Oil and gas ac-

counted for about 2 per cent of

Mr Eggar was upbeat

about the prospects for both

fuels and wrote off specula-

tion that the UK will soon be

an importer of gas. He said

that forecasts pitching gas

importation by 2005 were

gross domestic product.

Eggar confident as fuel output rises

competitive rationale.~ Anglo American recently took an option over 18.4 per

pessimistic and that with 20

years' worth of discovered fields he would be surprised if

Mr Eggar, who did not rule

out a return to the oil industry

after he leaves Parliament at

the next election, said the

production figures confound-

ed those who had said that a

decline was inevitable

will, no doubt, bear any added

responsibilities attaching to

their membership with pride.

Some of the elements in the 'forum" guidance are already

in the current guides of one or

another of the bodies, but

through the 1990s.

imports began so quickly.

cent of Lonrho shares, effectively lifting its stake in the hotels-to-mining conglomer-Gencor, South Africa's sec-ond biggest mining house, company is expected to inherit

Michael McMahon, chairmining portfolio when Lonrho man of Impala Platinum. separates its mining and nonmining interests. Anglo Gencor's platinum arm, said: "The Commission has ignored American has said that it is evidence that this merger is not interested in bidding for Lonrho, but wanted access to a based on the soundest propan-African mining portfolio. Mr Van Miert said the

possibility of Anglo American exercising control of Lonrho had been a factor, and rejected arguments that it would create a powerful pole of competition for Anglo American. "There was a risk that Anglo American could have gained com-plete control of platinum production in South Africa, which represents 90 per cent of the world's platinum potential."

Bentalls to

sell stake as

profits halve

PROFITS before tax at Bentalls, the department store

group, plunged 52 per cent to £1.2 million (£2.5 million)

because of squeezed margins

per cent to £86 million, this

was offset by £5 million debt

repayment, £150,000 spent closing its store in Tunbridge

Wells, £614,000 on refurbish-

ing its remaining five stores

and management consultancy

fees. Interest repayments

The company borrowed £25

million in 1995 to help to redevelop the Bentali Centre

in Kingston upon Thames, but is now selling its 17 per

cent rental interest to settle the

debt. This will be done under

an option arranged with Nor-

wich Union, expected to bring

came to £1.7 million.

While its turnover rose 2

(Fraser Nelson writes).

Lonrho and Gencor agreed in November to merge platinum operations. Impala Platinum Holdings, valued a: \$2 billion, would have had 28 per cent of the world market. against 35 per cent held by Anglo American Platinum Corporation (Amplats).

Tempus, page 28

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Helical Bar edges upwards to £9.2m

HELICAL BAR, the property developer, doubled profits from completed developments sales last year but investment property values fell and it said 1995 had been disappointing with little growth in rental levels and falling investment values. At the end of January. Helical's net asset value per share had risen only 4p to 368p per share after a revaluation of the investment portfolio showed a deficit of £2.8 million. Pre-tax profit for the year to January 31 rose £1 million to £9.2 million including trading and development profits of \$6.6 million (£3.2 million). The final dividend of 4.4p (3.75p) makes 7.3p for the year, up 12.3 per cent on last time.

Aberforth plans placing

ABERFORTH Smaller Companies Trust, which aims to invest in a portfolio of small LK-quoted companies, yesterday announced it intends to raise £74.4 million net of expenses through a proposed placing and offer for up to 75 million "C" shares at 100p per share. The placing will be around 65 million shares, with the offer making up the remainder. The offer will be open to existing investors and the public. One new warrant will be issued for every five new ordinary shares.

Trust may lift payout

INVESTORS CAPITAL TRUST hinted that dividends may be increased later this year and in 1997 when it reported results for the six months to March 31. The sister company to Forry & Sime's flagship British Assets investment trust said the upside for the UK equity market looked "limited through the summer months". The fund aims to beat the return of the FT-SE 350 index, but its return was 7 per cent, compared with the index's 8 per cent. There is an interim dividend of L35p per share.

Costs hit Essex Furniture

ESSEX FURNITURE reported a sharp drop in pre-tax profits after the opening costs of ten new stores left interest payments of £61,000. Results for the 18 months to December 13, 1995 show a pre-tax profit of £1.18 million, against profits of £1.406 million in the 12 months to June 30, 1994 - month for month a fall of 44 per cent. However, turnover jumped to £44.3 million in the 18 months, against £17.7 million in the 12-month period. There is a final dividend of 2.10p (18-month total of 6.40p).

Epic heads for AIM

EPIC MULTIMEDIA, a specialist in developing multimedia for both the consumer and business markets, is set to join the Alternative Investment Market via a placing, with the float expected to capitalise the group at about £20 million. Epic, based in Brighton, West Sussex, was formed as a buyout in 1989, and produces interactive entertainment titles. In the nine months to February 28, Epic made. losses of £1.39 million, on turnover of £2.97 million.

Marshalls to sell

MARSHALLS, the building materials and tools group, is selling its non-core engineering operations to Halco Group for £16 million. The company will use the proceeds to continue with in-fill acquisitions in the building materials industry and to finance organic growth. Marshalls said the sale will result in an exceptional profit of £2.75 million after allowing for goodwill previously written off and the costs of the transaction.

ACCOUNTANCY

An ethical badge of pride

Jack Maurice says an international

vote could bind UK accountants

but there will be no complaints

t the end of March, representatives of more than 20 countries debated in Paris measures which are likely to result in enhanced ethical guidance for all qualified accountants working in industry, commerce, the public sector or education.

All the national accountancy bodies represented are mem-bers of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). membership of which carries an obligation to do everything possible to implement IFAC standards and guidelines within one's own country. The three proposals approved by the forum for submission to the IFAC Council in May would involve changes to the IFAC Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants in three

☐ second and other opinions: professional fees; applicability of the code to

employed accountants. The first two submissions are intended to deal with two problems currently facing the practising profession - "opinion shopping" and "low-balling" respectively. These terms are largely self-explanatory. The additional guidance proposed is similar to that already in place for members of the UK auditing bodies.

But the third proposal would add four new sections to the code of application specifically to professional accountants employed in industry and commerce. At the moment, there is no element of the code specifically applicable to non-practising accountants. However, all professional accountants are expected to accord with part A of the code, which includes the fundamental principles: integrity, objectivity, competence, observance of professional standards and confidentiality.

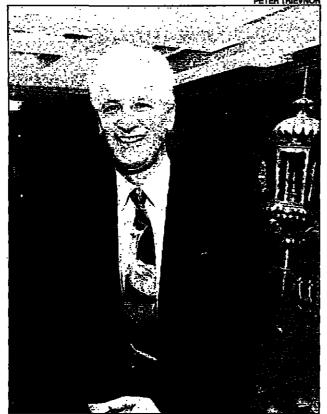
The new sections deal with

conflict of loyalties, support for

professional colleagues, and professional competence insofar as they affect employed accountants, and presentation of information. The additional guidance, which has been under discussion by IFAC's financial management and accounting committee for more than two years, is intend-ed to acknowledge the role of employed members and to assist them to carry out their duties to their employers in a manner consistent with professional integrity and competence, rather than to impose unrealistic burdens. Further, the code is directed at the national bodies themselves rather than at individual members. However, this particular submission should be of interest to well over 100,000

accountants in the UK. These accountants are members of one or other of the six professional accountancy bod-

ies which together form the



Jack Maurice says UK accountants are not shy about ethics

Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies (CCAB): the three Institutes of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Ireland and Scotland (ICAEW, ICAI and ICAS), the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, the Chartered Institute of Public and Financial Accountants and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. CCAB represents the UK professional as a member of IFAC. This means that if the additional

guidance is approved by the IFAC Council next month, all six bodies will be bound to do their best to bring in equivalent guidance for their own members. Each of the bodies has, in fact, a majority of members working outside practice, who will be subject to any new ethical provisions which result.

Membership of each of the six bodies is hard-won, and prized in the marketplace. The financial directors, controllers

some have no exact parallel. Professional accountants employed in practice are subject to all the provisions of part B of the code like their principals. However. the preamble to the new section C is likely to state that in certain circumstances these employees in practice as well

new provisions may apply to as to those in industry. They will therefore be in a unique category: professional accoun-tants to whom both the guidance for those in practice and that for employed accountants will apply. The guidance of the UK bodies, like that of most national bodies, has largely neglected this category, and it will be interesting to see how many ethical inquiries to the accountancy bodies result from the new provisions.

UK accountants are not shy about making such inquiries: the Professional Ethics Department of ICAEW, for example, already handles more than 11,000 ethical inquiries a year - more than any other accountancy body in the

The author is head of professional ethics at ICAEW, and UK Ethics Adviser to IFAC. His book, Accounting Ethics, was published by Pitman Publishing last month (ISBN 0273622242).

ends of the earth in their efforts to expand the field of accountancy training. And now they have their reward. The ACCA has won a Queen's Award for export achievement, the first time an accountancy body has done so. Mike Harvey, the ACCA president, even went so far as to claim that almost half last year's total income of E22 million came from overseas. He estimates that it represents some

Days of the mid-size firm are numbered

FOR accounting firms other than those in the Big Six, the game is up. Last week's figures produced by Accountancy Age magazine show that of the Top 100 UK companies only one complete audit is still in the hands of what would be characterised as a mediumsized firm. All the rest are carried out by the

elite group of the largest firms.

And if you stretch the survey to include the audits of the UK's Top 500 companies the figures are even more pointed. Last year's survey showed that the Big Six firms had 91.4 per cent of that market. This year's figures show that the last of the medium-sized firms are being squeezed out even more inexorably. Now 94.1 per cent of the market is in the hands of the Big Six.

In some ways this is not surprising. The trend has been moving this way for years. Companies at the largest end of the business spectrum need the widest services delivered from a depth and range of experience. And bankers also want the most blue chip of names as advisers to their

biggest customers.
And so it is that KPMG has 24.6 per cent of the audit business of the UK Top 500. Coopers & Lybrand has 19.5 per cent. Price Waterhouse 18.1 per cent, Ernst & Young 15.7 per cent, Arthur Andersen, including Binder Hamlyn, 8.7 per cent and Deloitte & Touche 7.5 per cent.

The question is, what hap-

pens next? If the big firms have 94.1 per cent of their natural markets, then you are beyond the real point of saturation. The audit work of the largest companies may occasionally move from one firm to another as a result of, for example, non-executives

wanting a bit of a shake-up and a tendering process. Other audits will move about as a result of mergers and takeovers. But change will be slow. There is none of the excitement of the late 1970s and early 80s when the large firms vacuumed up those large audits still languishing in longestablished relationships with firms which had simply not grown with the same speed and panache as their clients.

Growth in this market has now slowed to a crawl. So the strategy looks elsewhere. Having achieved domination of the major audit market, the large firms now look to the middle market, that of SMES, small and medium-sized enterprises.

Here you are looking at the remaining heartland of the medium-sized accounting firms. These are the companies with a turnover of between roughly £3 million and

They are family-run, owner-managed or going for rapid growth in new and more flexible markets. Traditionally they have gone for the smaller accounting forms as their auditors and advisers because in the beginning they neither needed nor could afford the largest firms. They wanted a greater level of advice. They felt they wanted the most elusive of advisory services accessible partner-level time. The smaller and medium-sized accounting firms have provided all that and have found that, shorn of the largest audit clients in the land, this was their true market. It is also their only large market.

Not surprisingly, the internal strategy documents produced by medium-sized firms talk of this being the natural heartland. Owner-managers talk easily with partners. The size of both the enterprise and the audit firm is similar. Each can identify with the other. The word "synergy" appears like a rash across the pages of strategy.

But now this same sector of the market has

started to appear as a very serious part of the strategy documents of the Big Six firms. The battle lines are being drawn.

Estimates suggest that the market consists of around 12,000 companies with business worth about £500 million. Any company with upwards of a £10,000 audit fee or prospects that suggest they could soon be in that. league is seen as a possible new client. The market share

ROBERT

BRUCE

of the Big Six is already pretty extensive. But no one firm has yet carved out a sizeable advantage. The firms see another bonanza around the corner, if only they can get it right. And that is going to be the hardest part. It is not a question of bolt-on skills. It

is a question of having a much more commercial approach to the nature of the advice needed. And the market is still wary of the largest firms. All the surveys and the anecdotal evidence suggests that smaller companies see the Big Six firms as being bureaucratic and hugely expensive.

It is also assumed that partners are as rare as hen's teeth when it comes to effective, personal and focused advisory time. Smaller companies also tend to perceive the partners in the largest firms as being more involved in arguments over regulatory and attest issues than simple and effective commercial advice.

For the medium-sized accounting firms. these are comforting perceptions. But the Big Six are starting to throw resource at this market. Over the next few years, we will see a change in the market. Only a few mediumsized firms will survive. And steadily the percentage of the market that the largest firms possess will grow.

Big Six opt for figure-hugging

THE Big Six firms are still bashful about publishing their figures. Traditionally all the top 50 firms put together some basic figures based on a March year-end. And at the beginning of June these are published as a league table. Not this year. This week the senior partners of the Big Six firms meet for dinner to decide what to publish. Rumour has it that KPMG. having VAT Practitioners' Group

published something akin to a full report and accounts in January, is refusing to recalculate to a March year-end for league table purposes. And the other five are set to follow suit. Expect a Top 50 with six empty places at the top.

'Empty' threat TIMING is all. This year's

coincided last week with the day when the world and its wife seemed interested only in how the Chancellor of the Exchequer's shortfall in VAT receipts had come about. John Brown, as president of the VAT Practitioners, had to explain to Valerie Strachan, the chairman of Customs and Excise, what might have happened. "I'm very sorry about the £6 billion," he started. "I'm only responsible for £175 of it.

ANY CITHER BUSINESS

As for the rest ... " Strachan was clear in her response. "All suggestions would be gratefully accepted," she told the room full of VAT practitioners. "But if you would all line up at the end of the evening and empty your pockets, we would be very grateful."

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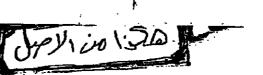
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FILM 1

With McKellen in superbly sinister form, the Thirties updating of Richard III makes rip-roaring cinema



FILM 2

Poised acting does not rescue The Birdcage, a limp and dated remake of La Cage aux folles





FILM 3

Julianne Moore plays the housewife who succumbs to "environmental illness" in the unnerving Safe



■ FILM 4

Jean-Claude Van Damme ripples his torso and saves democracy (again) in Sudden Death

RADIO

Lesson

from

America

BRITAIN'S absurd political obsession with Europe has

been reflected in the media, and understandably so. But that has tended to squeeze out traditional sources of enlight-enment, particularly America, so that current affairs pro-

gramming is now more likely

to focus on Europe (and Asia)

The balance needed restor-

ing, not least because so many

American companies have

plants in Britain. So a new

three-part series. America

days) is to be welcomed. It is

flagged as a World Tonight

special: from that stable one

expects quality and this pro-vides it.

One key lesson of Simon

Dring's reports is that he

could be in Britain, except for

the accents. "Downsizing" has been the industrial buzzword

of America since the 1980s, as

it is here. Americans, like

Britons, greet a coming elec-

tion with scepticism: what can

politicians do to save jobs, if

industries are set on moving

In Iowa, Dring found once-great providers of jobs re-

duced to nothing, by strikes in

the case of Firestone and by re-

location in the case of John

Deere. A man who earned the

equivalent of £10.86 an hour at

Firestone now works in a

petrol station opposite the factory for £4.30 an hour.

Kenny Merton, a road-main-

tenance worker, earns £4.86

an hour now, the same as he

was paid in the same job 20

years ago. Bill Clinton, on a

campaign swing through lowa, decries the fact that the

national minimum wage

(£2.83 an hour) has less pur-

chasing power now than it did

40 years ago. So much for that

The upshot is that 43 million

American jobs have been lost

since 1979 and the number of

people on subsistence incomes

divisions, always measured in

America by income rather

than by social status, have all

As Merton said: "We used to

have a lower class, a middle

class and an upper class. But

right now you either have

money or you don't. There's no

The Midwest has gone the

way of the old British industri-

al heartlands, bringing fear

and insecurity. The role of

trade unions has been crucial,

for their power forced up

wages in the 1970s. Now American companies

have a simple message: work

for what we offer or we will

move to another state. Jowa is

already one of the poorest

states in America, but there is

always a neighbouring coun-

try. Mexico. where people will

Throughout Dring's tour of

the homes and the bowling

alleys of the insecure and the

dispossessed, we kept hearing the unspoken: if finding

cheaper labour is just a matter

of upping sticks and moving

from one United State to

work for \$1 an hour.

but disappeared.

middle class."

higher than ever. Old class

panacea.

iobs elsewhere?

than the United States.

CINEMA: Geoff Brown sees Ian McKellen take Richard III and turn it into a great night at the pictures

Now showing: the man who would be king

f Shakespeare were alive today, he would be writing for the movies. How many times have we heard this? Completely unprovable, of course: for all we know, the Bard might fancy designing video games or reading the news on Chan-nel 4. But Richard III, the film, goes some way towards making the cliche appear true.

Take the first flurry of shots. On the soundtrack a tickertape ticks. A tank crashes through a book-lined study. heralding the King's assassination some time in the 1930s. Earl Rivers flies in from America During victory celebrations in a palace ballroom, lan McKellen's Duke of Gloucester takes the band singer's microphone. But in-stead of singing he solil-oquises: "Now is the winter of our discontent, made glorious

summer ..."
Limping through the crowd, this oleaginous charmer with the thin moustache (think Hitler, think Mosley) beckons us and the camera to follow him. We end up in the gent's toilet, the soliloguy still flowing. Shakespeare was never like this before. Even Richard Eyre's 1990 National Theatre production, the film's inspiration, was never like this.

The energy is overwhelm-ing. Much of it stems from the telescoped script: what can last four hours on stage now takes 103 minutes. McKellen sends up his own shower of sparks. Transposing Shakespeare's disfigured schemer to the decade that appeased fascist dictators may be an obvious trick, but McKellen's force keeps the characterisation valid. Speaking to others, this murderous usurper in black military uniform coats words with jam. Speaking to us. straight to camera, out come the smirk, the scowl and the conniving glint. This man, you feel, is truly dangerous.

And yet the film might still have trundled along, half theatre, half cinema. with a director other than Richard Loncraine. Experienced in television and commercials, Loncraine is uninhibited by reverence for the text or the sight of great actors in flight. He pushes the images along like a speed demon; and if some of Shakespeare's words jar in context — "My kingdom for a horse!" Richard cries as his Jeep is hit — then it's just

1 too bad. Indeed, collisions between text and image are part of the film's jaunty appeal. Here is Lady Anne (Kristin Scott-Thomas) going to hell the modern way, injecting heroin into her thigh and smoking rolled-up banknotes. Here are Annette Bening and Robert Downey Jr lounging like tour-ists as Edward IV's American wife and brother-in-law. Locations and computer simulations provide amusement of their own. Edward rules from the Gothic exuberance of a riverside St Pancras, while Richard prefers the cold marble of Senate House. As for Bosworth Field, site of the

final battle, that becomes the burnt-out shell of Battersea

Shakespeare's words are cut to the quick but otherwise unaltered, apart from the odd rebuke by Richard's chauffeur to a kid jumping on the car's fender. Loncraine's actors vigorously pitch into the charade: with Jim Broadbent as Buckingham, Maggie Smith as a horrified Duchess of York and Nigel Hawthorne as the gentle Clarence, you are guaranteed tasty moments. This may not be the most thoughtful Shakespeare production around; but it certainly makes for riproaring cinema.

> Richard III Curzon West End 15, 103 mins Shakespeare sets

the screen on fire

The Birdcage Empire, 15, 119 mins Crass, gaudy remake of La Cage aux folles Safe

MGM Piccadilly 15, 118 mins Unnerving drama about environmental sickness

Sudden Death Plaza, 18, 110 mins Van Damme saves the world. Yawn

The Birdcage revisits a different set text, Jean Poiret's hit play of the 1970s. La Cage aux folles, first filmed in 1978. The American remake, slick and shallow, whisks the story from the French Riviera to South Beach, Florida, where the sun beats down and neon glows at the Birdcage nightclub. Robin Williams is its buttoned-down manager. Armand; Nathan Lane his flamboyant partner Albert, the show's drag queen. Panic, never far from the surface. strikes anew when Armand's son announces his engagement. How will the ultraconservative in-laws react to

Time has moved on since Michel Serrault dangled a limp wrist in 1978. Now we have Aids to consider, and we take far less kindly to stereotypes. But this transfer, prepared by distinguished hands (Mike Nichols directs and Elaine May writes), leaves the old gay wonderland untouched. Any topicality in the film comes from the character of Gene Hackman's Republican Senator, co-founder of the Coalition for Moral Order, and his nervously smiling wife, Dianne Wiest.

this unorthodox family?

Unfortunately, it takes more than a joke about Bob Dole to make a movie contemporary Scratch the surface and The Birdcage rattles with age as it cranks up the cliches of farce and drag comedy. On a technical level, you can admire the cast's poise and timing. Williams underplays generously, leaving room for Broadway star Lane to flounce with

warmth.

In six weeks The Birdcage has taken \$100 million at the US bux-office. But you expect more from the old team of Nichols and May than a film that only hits the jackpot by draping a corpse in gaudy colours and getting up the gay

community's nose. After The Birdcage, the placid surface of Todd Haynes's Safe might seem to offer relief. The camera sits still, quietly eyeing Julianne Moore as she goes about the dull business of being a housewife in the San Fernando valley. A couch is delivered in the wrong colour. She goes to the fitness club, and perms her hair; any hard work is left to Fulvia, her Hispanic drudge.

But wait a minute. This film is by the man who told the Karen Carpenter story with a cast of Barbie dolls, and mixed the styles of TV documentary. 1950s sci-fi and homo-erotic drama in Poison. If his new film is quiet, the calm must be deceptive. It is. For the housewife's life is under surreptitious attack. Little things unhinge her. Exhaust fumes prompt coughing. She bleeds at the nose. A leaflet informs her about "environmental illness". A video tells her more: there are 6,000 chemicals in daily use, and only 10 per cent have been tested for toxicity.

uspecting an allergy to modern life, she retreats to a New Age health centre, marooned in the desert in New Mexico. "We are one, we are safe, all's well with our world." the centre's motto reads. But tity are still being eroded; soon

This is a most unnerving film. The narrative traps you in a tunnel. There is no escape to other stories, no emergence into sunlight. You must stick with the heroine's disintegrating life. At first comedy is allowed for: you can laugh at the ritual trivialities of suburban life. But by the time the housewife reaches her New Age cocoon, the film has left satire far behind, and leaves us to ponder gloomily on what ravages life more: environmental pollution or human

attitudes to sickness. Haynes gives his lead actress little room to manoeuvre. But Moore - so wonderful in Vanya on 42nd Street, so wasted in Nine Months carries the role with great resilience, and never slips into catatonia. Safe may not be the most entertaining movie around, but it is made with great care, changes perceptions and provokes serious thought

Sudden Death provokes nothing except yawns. An American Vice-President hostage during an ice-hockey game in Pittsburgh. After rigging the arena with bombs. they demand \$1 billion from Treasury funds frozen abroad; and the only man who can



stop them is the Muscles from Brussels, Jean-Claude Van Damme, on fireman duty in a crowd of 17,000.

Van Damme, still not much of an actor, comes into his own when he gets kicking, and thrusting villains into meat grinders and chip pans. Director Peter Hyams never stints on the action, but you always feel you're watching a machine, not participating in a live

A boring villain further reduces excitement. Powers Boothe's former CIA psycho is suave and sarcastic. His demands include "world peace, an end to bigotry, and no more mini-malls". But the character dulls through repetition, and Boothe's voice brings no refreshment: he sounds like Gregory Peck smeared with

Entertaining and explosive' discuss the new releases . . . RICHARD III

Matt Jones, 23: Some of its power has been lost by reducing the text, but it compensates with a great cast. Dave Bere, 22: I found the story confusing to follow but

the film was lavish and entertaining, with storming performances from all the actors. Damian Samuels, 23: It could have done with an extra halfan-hour to tie up some loose ends in the plot, but it was entertaining and explosive. Jon Gibson, 19: I really love Shakespeare and I'm a big fan of this play. This is a cracking

version and I would recommend everybody see it.

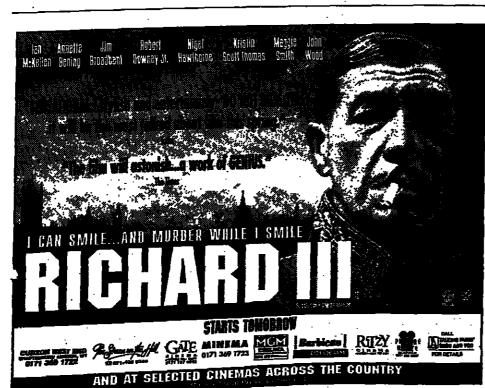
THE BIRDCAGE Matt: Hilarious — the best comedy of the year so far. Dave: A superficial farce with some superb acting and hysterical moments. Damian: Bawdy, sexy and gorgeous — as funny as Some Like it Hot. Jon: Wonderfully vibrant and deliciously camp.

SAFE Matt: The style of the film was bizarre - a cross between a social documentary and Miami Vice - and failed to

captivate.

Dave: Too many relationships were left unexplored and the film left me unsatisfied. The acting was good, though. Damian: While one would like to commend Tod Haynes for tackling the subject, Safe is totally devoid of any verve. Jon: Very moving, but the action was slow at times.

another, what would happen in a United States of Europe? PETER BARNARD







■ CHOICE 1

Leslie Phillips makes his Chichester debut in Love for Love VENUE: In preview at

the Festival Theatre

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

CHICHESTER' The 1986 Chichester Festival Thesire Season opens with the first night of previews for Love for Love, William Congreve's cornedy about

money, visitantly, hypocrisy and growing old. Staming Richard Garnell, Derek Jacobi, and Lesse Philitips in his house debut Directed by lan Judge Festival, Oeklands Park (01243

781312) Tonight, 7,30pm, Fri 8pm; max Sal 2,30pm Opens Apr 27, 8pm, (5)

HARROGATE: The European premere

HARROGATE: The European premere of David Memet's adaptation of The Three Statent, Andrew Manley directs Chekhon's poognant yet comically absurd play, in which time is literally stipping by in Michael Spencer's revolving stage design. Harrogatia, Oxford Street (01423 502116). Oxford Street (01423 502116). Oxford Street (2130pm. Then Tue-Sat 7.45pm; mais Sat 2.30pm (May 4, 11). Until May 11

LizeOS Opera North presents Gerhard's masterpiece The Duenna adored for its wit and carrival atmosphere when first performed in

ELSEWHERE



CHOICE 2

David Mamet's adaptation of The Three Sisters comes to Britain VENUE: Opens tonight

at the Harrogate Theatre

1992. Susannah Glanville returns to the company as Donna Luise, with Claire Powell in the title role. Helena Kaut-

Howson for the time role. Helena Ratu-Hawson directs a new performing adition by David Drew. Sung in English. Grand, New Briggate (0113-245 9351/440971). Tonight, 7 15pm. (5)

MANCHESTER: Frans Brüggen conducts the Hallé Orchestra and

Choir in his arrangement of Bach's Ricercare and Beethoven's great choral work, the Symphony No 9 in D minor. With Lynna Dawson, soprano, Katanna

Karneus, mezzo-soprano, and Peter Savidge, bass Repeated on Sunday. Free Trade Hall, Peter Street (0161-

British Nuceum: Beirut: Uncoverno

British Museum: Beirut: Uncovering the Past (0171-635 1555).
Countrailed: Drawings by Thomes
Gansborough (071-673 2526)...
Festivel Halt: Muse People and others by Beity Freeman (0171-600 4242). National Gellery Old Mester paralings from Rame's Dota Pamphil Gallery (0171-747 2885). National Portrait Gallery: David Lyngstone and the Victorian Encounter with Africa (0171-306 0055). Flichard Green: L.S. Lowy (1071-433 3939)... Royal Academy Gustava Carlebotte (0171-837 8300)... V & A. Arts and Crafts Architecture (0171-838 8500)

Crafts Architecture (0171-938 8500) ... Whitechapel Jeff Wall's

Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Now previewing, 7.45pm, mat Set 3pm, Opens Apr 30, 7pm.

transparences (0171-522 7888)

TWELVE ANGRY MEN: Keva Whately, Timothy West, Peter Vaugha and nine excellent others in Reginald

834 1712) Tonight, 7.30pm. 🖨

LONDON GALLERIES

THE



■ VIDEOS

"Houston, we have a problem": Tom Hanks is stuck in space in the thrilling story of Apollo 13



RECORDS

The burgeoning talent of the British baritone Bryn Terfel is showcased on a new recital disc

LONDON

DOMATELLA FLICK CONDUCTING COMPETITION: The culturnation of this COMMETTION: the comment of this biential event with the three young finefests thying out their concluding skills on the London Symphony Orchestre. The programmes are drawn by lots from a selection of works by Beethoven, Berlioz, Saint-Seens, Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev, the winner will be announced in the concept. at the end of the concert. Barblesn, SP: Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight, 7 30pm. [5]

MULES: Winsome Princek's drugaroughs: vensome Prince's drug-courier drams: two Jamaca'n sisters are enticed by a big reward. Abi Enicle, Clare Perfens. Sheit; Whitfield play 13 characters, directed by Roxana Sitbert. Theatre Upstatrs. Royal Court, Stoane Square, SW1 (0171-730 2554). Previous begin tompit. 7 45pm. Opens April 30. DOUBLE BILL: The plantst Andres Gevilov joins the Japan Philibarmon Symptiony Orchestra as it begins a European tour with two concerts in Britain Yoshimatsu's The Age of Birds Britain Yoshmassu's The Age of Brits opens longin's concert at the Festival Hall, tollowed by Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini and Falls's The Time-Comered Hall. Jun'eth Hirokam' conducts this and tomorrow's concert at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham, Air the Purcell Room, Bob Hurt directs the armust tribute to the Jazz masstor Duke Ellington. South Bank, SE1 (0171-950 4242) Tongint, both at 7.30pm (§)

musical on mamage, pro and centra. Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mars Wed

DI MISS JULIE Autor Tourning Co-bring the second of this spring is three productions of Strindberg is drama lick Philippour directs Nate Fertinck Mistri Howson and Peter Lindford, uping Gregory Motton's translation

BEFORE AND AFTER (12) Gum family drama with Meryl Speed and Liam Nesson as parents of a teangon.

accused of murder Director Barbet

SMOKE (15) Criss-crissionalives in

William Hart Develter, Wayne Wang. Everyman (2) 0171-435 15251 Lumbere 19 71-836 6691 / MiGM

10181-332 0030) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys (0171-732 3532)

◆ TWELVE MONKEYS (15) Urranekty

Bruce V/iiis as the Inne-traveller seeing the source of a virus. With Madelene Stove. Biad Pitt. Barbitonn (§) (0.171-638-839.1) Claphann Pichure Heusse (0.171-498-332.3) MGMas Beiter Street (0.171-436-332.3) MGMas Beiter Street (0.171-370-2626) Shaffesbury Avenue (0.171-870-626) Trocadero (0.171-434-002.1) Notting Hill Coronet (§) (0.171-727-6705) Odeon Swiss Cottage (0.1465-914098) Pisza (0.900-888-997) Rite (0.171-254-6677) Ritzy (0.171-737-2121.) UCI Writtleys (0.171-737-23332) Werner

Whiteleys (3) (0171-792 3332) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

UNZIPPED (15). Exuberant documentary about lashron designer Isaac Misrahi as ha creates a new

collection Director, Dauglas Keeve.

extravegenza from Terry Gilliam, with Bruce Wilns as the time-traveller

Brooklyn Agreeable tably piece writter by Paul Auster with Horsey Keyel and

Chocer Odeons: Kensington (01426-914-666) Leicester Square (01426-915-683) Swiss Cottage (0171-526-3057)

NEW RELEASES

☐ COMPANY Adrian Lester, Sheila Gish, Sophie Thompson in an excellen staging of Sondhem's betterswed staging on resmander are and contral THEATRE GUIDE

House full, returns only

☐ DEFINITELY DORIS. Revue-style musical celebrating the fite and songs of Miss Day High sugar content (ding's Head. 119 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) Tue-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat and Sun, 3 30pm. Until May 26 € Gate, Pembridge Rd, W11 (0171-229 5387) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm Until May 11 ☑ FOE Theatre de Complicate's IN FOE Theatre de Complicate's anesting new work, based on J.M. Coetzee's radical revision of Robinson Crustee, with Kathryn Hunter as the resound castaway trying to make Mr Daniel Foe believe har story Young Vie, The Cut, SEI 10171-928 6363) Now the Warding 7 30pm Opens Apr 29, 7 30pm Umgl June 1 PASSION An uncommong musical from Sonchern, but Maria Fredman remarkably good as a waracous man-funite who gets her man With Michael Ball Queen's, Shahesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590) Mon-Sat. 7-45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm SKYLIGHT: Outstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Liz Williams in SALITTLE NIGHT MUSIC Elegani and successful production by Sean Mathias of Scriphern's Swodish charmer Judi Dench, Patrica Hodge, Sain Photips and Lambert Wiscon-among the stars strange in the night National (Oliver). South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7 15cm in rep-with time Prince's Play, 18 David Hare's dramabsation of society's conflicts in the form of a prickly reunion Wyndham's, Charing Creos Road. WC2 (0171-369 1736) Mon-Set, 8pm mai Sat 3pm Final week.

☐ TOLSTOY: Oscar-winning F. Murray Abraham (Salien in Arradeus) blays the complicated novelist and Gertma Jones his inturated wife, claiming at each other in James Goldman's pilay about their curdled mamage. Tony Awardwinner Jack Hotsiss directs.

Rose's celebrated jury-room drama. Comedy, Panton Street SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat., 7.45pm; mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm. ☐ WHAT A BLEEDIN' LIBERTY!

within a bleedin Liberty!
Kate Williams and Enc Richard play an old cougle scaveraging on a scrap heap Philip Hodley directs Torn Kempinski siripose to Sem Beckett's "philosobie of measurement." "philosophy of meaninglesness" Theatre Royal, Geny Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat LONG RUNNERS

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessme films in London and (wh Indicated with the symbo on release across the country

MGMs: Futham Road (0171-370 2636; Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) CURRENT

◆ BROKEN ARROW :15) Jahr. Christian States times to get them back Bumptious and brainless action movie, directed by John Woo MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Chetses (0171-352 5095) Odeons: Cransea (0171-352 5096) Coleons: Kensington (01426 914666) Marble Arch (01426 914501) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) West End (01426 915 574) UCI Whiteleys (10171-792 3332)

CASINO (18) Scorsese's epic of Las Vegas in the 1970s glorious vegas in the 1976 genous background detail, but the human drama flegs. With Robert De Niro. Sharon Stone and Joe Pesci. MCMT Trocadoro (§ (0171-434 0031) Plaza (0171-437 1234)

LA CEREMONIE (15): The periect rousemaid gets her revenge on her Imployers: Absorbing version of Ruth empoyers. Austigement in Stone, with leadelle Huppert and Sandrine, with Isabelle Huppert and Sandrine, Bonnaire Director. Claude Chabrol McGitte: Penton Street (0171-930 0631) Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)

GET SHORTY (15) John Travolta's canshark takes on the move business Errentaining but trivial cornectly from Elmore Leonard's movel Director. Barry Scriverled With Darry De Vico, Gene Hackman, Reine Russo, Delioy Lindo Empire (0171-427 1234) MGMs: Fullham Road (0171-370 2536) Tempor Trocadero (5) (0171-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0171-792 3332)

MIGHTY APHRODITE (15): Woody Wen searches for his adopted son: natural mother. Engaging variation on old themas, with Oscor-winner Mira Barbican (0171-638 8891) Chelses

House (0171-498 3323) Odeons: Havmarket (01426 915353) Kernsington (1/426 915353) Kernsington (1/426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914085) Phoenix (0181-883 2233 https://doi.org/10.171-737.2121) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys (1) (0171-792 3332) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST (PG) Cary Grant is mistaken for a non-existent spy Welcome revival of Hitchcock's playful, entertaining (fiviler (1959), with James Mason and Eva Mane Salnt MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527)

SGT. BILKO (PG): Crass spin-off from Phil Silvers's television com classic, with Steve Martin as the Cassist, wur steve Martin as ine coruning army sergeant. With Dan Akyroyd. Director, Jonathan Lynn. MGM Trocadero (5) (0174-434 0031) Placa (6) (0171-437 1234) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0171-792 3332)

Right stuff, wrong mission

■ APOLLO 13

CIC, PG, 1995 THE controls flash red. An oxygen tank explodes. And mission control hears the message: "Houston, we have a problem". Ron Howard's film recreates the 1970 Apollo 13 space flight with fine special effects, straightforward drama but an unprobing mind: 25 years after the events, you expect something more than flag-waving heroism. Tom Hanks, as Jim Lovell, is Everyman in the cockpit, though the most interesting astronaut is Kevin Bacon's Jack Swigert, a swinging bachelor drafted into the crew at the last minute. Rental release.

■ THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS

Warner, 15, 1946 A DEAD pianist's hand comes back to life to scuttle round the keyboard like a crab, making life miserable for his crazy secretary and greedy relatives. An imperfect but diverting horror movie, with Peter Lorre at his eeriest and a fine director, Robert Florey, spicing the brew with macabre humour and lots of Germanic shadows.

BUTTERFLY KISS PolyGram, 18, 1995

AMANDA PLUMMER and Saskia Reeves litter the motorways, with corpses in this arresting but dubious British freak show - a first cinema venture for television director Michael Winterbottom. Plummer is Eunice, with chains and bruises round her chest: Reeves is the mousy Miriam. following devotedly in her footsteps. Characters talk grandly about punishment and hell, but the fancy words lead nowhere. To compensate, Winterbottom gets good visual mileage from the dreary geography of Tarmac, service stations and motels. To rent.



Which way is home? (Clockwise from left) Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Bill Paxton as the Apollo 13 astronauts

PANTHER

PolyGram, 18, 1995 HURTLING, rose-tinted drama about the rise of the Black Panther movement in the 1960s. In this retelling, the Panthers' only fault is an excess of zeal; while the drug problem in urban ghettos can be traced directly to the FBI, the meanest villains who ever lived. Historical figures crowd the script, but Kadeem Hardison's lead character is fictional, an average

citizen swept up into the party's struggles. Belligerent direction by Mario Van Peebles. Available to rent.

THE SCARLET LETTER Entertainment, 15, 1995

THE film-makers did not know which way to face when they made this adaptation of Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel about love and intolerance in 17th-century Massachusetts. They wanted to be historically sensitive:

hence the thees, the thous, and the white man's guilt over the Indians. They wanted to be relevant: so Demi Moore's Hester Prynne is a feminist martyr. They wanted good box-office: so Moore and pastor Gary Oldman frolic in the nude. Students of American literature should be amused; the rest may be slightly bored. Available to

GEOFF BROWN

NEW CLASSICAL CDS: Winter walk in song; religious Rubbra; a tour of Terfel

mund Rubbra last December

VOCAL

Hilary Finch

■ SCHUBERT Winterreise Holzmair/Cooper Philips 446 407-2★★★ THE Austrian baritone Wolfgang Holzmair has quite a has admitted that he frequently finds the rhythm for a song through the soles of his feet. That may account for the unusually instinctive sense of pacing in this deeply thoughtful performance of Schubert's

great songcycle. Holzmair's light, lyric baritone never over-presses an interpretative point: the gripping detail of his performance builds cumulatively and mesmerically through long, supple and melodic lines and invigorating rhythmic definition. The listener is made to feel the heat of desperation.

of mortality. Imogen Cooper's piano playing, too, brings out the physicality of Schubert's writing: the movement of water, spring growth, autumn leaf fall and human footfall.

As the wanderer strides on, Holzmair offers a striking juxtaposition of the steady, inexorable tread in The Signpost — whose pulse picks up that of the very first and the almost total stillness of The Inn, before the last song, each syllable uniquely matt, staring, and numb as the hurdy-gurdy's note.

ORCHESTRAL **Barry Millington**

■ RUBBRA Symphony No 9: The Morning Watch Jones/Roberts/BBC National Orchestra of Wales/Hickox Chandos CHAN 9411*** RICHARD HICKOX'S first release of symphonies by Edincluded the masterpiece of the set: the Fourth. Symphony No 9 is a very different proposition. Where the Fourth is Rubbra's most cogently argued organic work in the genre, the Ninth. subtitled Sinfonia Sacra (The Resurrection), compresses symphonic

but the Ninth is explicitly religious (indeed Christian) in inspiration, telling the story of the Resurrection in Passion style, complete with narrations and chorales. There are innovations, however, such as the brief spoken passage after the Resurrection and a chorus for divided tenors.

assured Jesus, and Lynne Dawson takes the small but important solo soprano role. Hickox again shows a natural

Rubbra's motet for chorus

full justice. The BBC National Orchestra of Wales is on top form in both works. OPERA

The choral writing is in the

tradition and the BBC Nat-

ional Chorus of Wales does it

John Higgins BRYN TERFEL Opera arias

Metropolitan Opera Orchestra/Levine Deutsche Grammophon 445 866-2*** BRYN TERFEL has admitted that this recital is in part a

showcase for future roles. On the evidence of this top-class disc, with marvellous support from James Levine and the Met orchestra, several paths are open.

But he begins with Mozart

is a swaggering Non più Figaro was the role which put Terfel on the operatic map, and Leporello's Catalogue Aria with which he sung his Giovanni off the stage at Salzburg two summers ago. The natural bonhomie of Der Vogelfänger marks him as a

Arias from Macheth and Falstaff also suggest that both Verdi title roles are made for him. Don Magnifico's dream from Cenerentola shows him

provide revelations. Wol-Flying Dutchman's opening aria carries an almost unrito be the first way ahead.

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"A RESOUNDING HIT" Sunday Telegraph On Monday Nights Allen Stewart will play Joleon Evgs Mon-Set 7.30, Marts Ward & Set MOW BOOKING TO FEB '97

and familiar territory. There Watch, is a splendid setting of a poem by the 17th-century mystic poet Henry Vaughan. best Holst/ Vaughan Williams

as a potential Fossini buffo.

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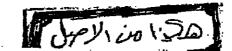
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THEATRE 1

Shades of George Bernard Shaw are evoked by Peter Whelan's anti-Royalist play, Divine Right



■ THEATRE 2

Molière sparkles in a lively new translation as the Almeida puts Tartuffe on stage

THE



THEATRE 3

Adrian Noble's intelligent RSC production of Romeo and Juliet comes to the Barbican



A dark and dreary staging, but at least the singing has perked

up in Covent

Garden's Tosca

OPERA

THEATRE: Sympathetic royal in republican drama; rhyming for good reason in Tartuffe; Romeo as repressed adolescent

Good night, sweet prince

he trouble with playing imagi-native games of "what if" with the Royal Family is that reality tends to be more improbable than invention. Four years ago which dramatist could have dreamt up a scenario in which the Princess of Wales declared her husband unfit to rule, appointed herself the Queen of People's Hearts, and took the post so literally that a television crew could shoot her watching someone's ticker being cut up? By comparison Peter Whelan's futuristic fancy, which is that Prince Charles celebrates the millennium by renouncing his claim to the throne in favour of his 18-year-old son, seems almost workaday.

Fortunately, Whelan and his director, Bill Alexander, lift the idea far above the workaday. If anything, Divine Right is too ambitious, for it actually consists of two plays crammed into 180 minutes, each timely and enthralling but neither developed as fully as it might be. One is mainly concerned with the politicking of a republican faction in and out of the Commons. The other shows the

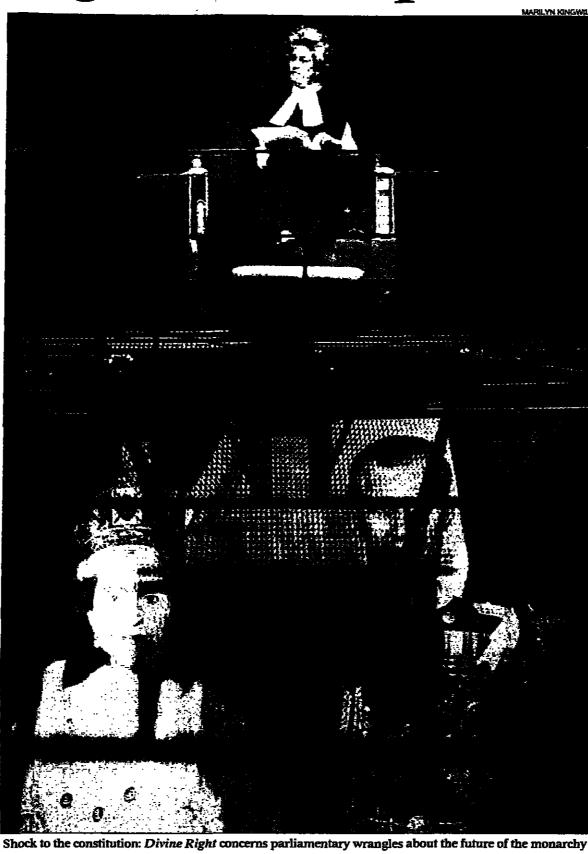
> **Divine Right** Birmingham Rep

Oueen's grandson and heir doing what Henry V did in Eastcheap and, later, at Agincourt: acquainting himself with the feelings of people unlikely to be invited to royal garden parties.

True, each allows plenty of thoughts about the uses and abuses of monarchy to come articulately to the surface. In play one, for instance, a republican wittily suggests that the Royal Family is so adept at "reinventing the 19th century" that Britain's movers and shakers end up sucked into "a neverending Merchant-Ivory movie". In play two, a Nigerian shopkeeper passionately argues that monarchy might have saved his nation from dictatorship, corruption and chaos. Yet would not the big playwriting Davids, Hare and Edgar, have dealt more trenchantly with the wheeling and dealing in play one?

Here, we get parliamentary wran-gles in which the leader of a "sanitised, deodorised, decaffeinated" Labour government - Paul Connolly proving with every smile and gesture that Blair imitation will soon be a major industry with his Tory foes. But behind the scenes plots are being hatched between an unregenerate socialist MP (bootfaced Mary Jo Randlel, a self-made Tory meritocrat (smirking Ian Gelder) and an eccentric millionaire (bumbling Joe Melia) who thinks the end of 'Norman" rule would reunite Britain and Ireland.

Their conversations suggest deep differences about the republican president - should he be Thomas More or Mussolini? - and these are only halfexplored when the prince's secret trek through England ends. This has introduced him to a despairing OAP who begs him to mug and murder her. a fly expatriate estate agent on a trip



home, a distraught father who thinks bad royal example has destroyed family values and wrecked his own daughter, skinheads who worship the Queen as an English Führer, and poverty and disillusionment galore. It is a pretty partial portrait of

England, but that does not altogether matter, for, as played by William Mannering, the bomber-jacketed

DONALD COOPER

prince is a touchingly real character. He is considerate, conscientious, patient, perceptive, sensitive, vulnerable, and everything some of us think Prince Charles is and hope William will be. One longs to see more of him. for Whelan handles his scenes with a warmth Hare and Edgar would find

hard to match.

professed republican, has made a scion of Windsor easily his most sympathetic character. Whether that influences his ending, though, I shall only hint at. This prince is the spiritual heir of King Magnus, admirable protagonist of Shaw's Apple Cart. Let me leave an enjoyable evening right there.

Some readers of this col-umn took me to task last autumn when I said that a certain prose translation up at Manchester had turned Molière's verse play into a dull thing. But listen to Richard Wilbur's couplets in the version Jonathan Kent uses here and the difference hits you like a breath of sweet air: You're swathed from head to foot in haute couture;

It's not to please your husband, that's for sure. No, it is not immortal poetry,

destined to ring down the centuries, but it has the virtue of being conversational language, fitting in a rhyme without strain — even cheekily linking French and English and it conveys its meaning with theatrical crispness. It is one of innumerable lines, none perhaps deathless, which nevertheless provide the play with wideawake argument. The characters become interesting because how they speak is interesting, and thus the play

becomes a lively battleground. Those particular lines are spoken by the besotted Orgon's equally besotted mother, Patsy Byrne (good to see her again), wearing a vast farthingale that turns her into a thick, black, beruffed cylinder. Rob Howell's designs keep the play in the time Molière wrote it, without going to town on froth and fripperies, but he has devised a set the like of which I do not think I have ever seen before. A seat on the left side facing the stage commands the best view of its spiral corridor. severely foreshortened and lined with holy statues like a baroque library.

When Ian McDiarmid's Orgon enters this place he scrupulously touches the feet of each saint, a tactile substitute for what he evidently longs to do to the languorously angelic body of Tom Hollander's Tartuffe. Kent's production (sponsored by the Laura Pels Foundation) draws attention to the sexual spell Tartuffe casts upon his patron. There is a moment when they are like a foolish old man and courtesan together, but this courtesan is a coquette who will never deliver what the mesmerised victim does not, of course, consciously know that he de-

To his cherubic lips and canny eyes, Hollander brings a murmurously parsonical voice that soothes and enchants yet will suddenly erupt into yelps and howls of remorse that are baroque in their exaggerated emotion. He also plays with his hands a lot. rubbing them together when paying court to Susannah Harker's Elmire, stroking them as the next best thing to a lustious pair of breasts. At the end, struck down by King Louis's all-seeing, all-knowing and quasi-divine justice, this Tartuffe crawls miserably

All the better for verse

Tartuffe Almeida

across the stage to hide under

A happy end, you might suppose, with virtue triumphant, were it not that only dramatic licence has brought about the hypocrite's down fall: Kent's judgment is right

to make Orgon's immediate decidedly rocky. McDiarmid, a master of testy irony, evi-dently relishes the snap in Wilbur's lines, and in one neatly orchestrated scene with Diane Bull's unsquashable Dorine goes hammer and tongs with her. Almost forgotten between

them. Emma Chambers's Mariane, previously a bubbly creature — and with a premy habit of tossing her side-curls - is now too terrified even to snivel. In moments like this, McDiarmid has the look of a furious, bleached parrot. Wilbur, Kent and the actor playing Cléante (David Lyon) even make the play's moral aphorisms worth listening to; and this, in contrast to last year's experience, is a really welcome experience.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Hidden lust: Ian McDiarmid's Orgon is besotted with Tom Hollander as Molière's pious hypocrite, Tartuffe

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE Here is the play's irony. Whelan, a Boys and girls come out to kill Romeo and Juliet where blowing raspberries escalates into fatal stabbings. Mark Lockyer's Mercutio is a Barbican manic joker, delightfully witty but worrying: sparkily inventive but unstable. His Queen tailcoats and farthingales. Verona's inhabitants, in fact, Mab fantasy overwhelms him look distinctly British. Darlike a bad dream. When his Still, Julian Glover's Scots best friend falls in love with lene Johnson's blonde. coiffured Lady Capulet has the someone else, he fights back the tears.

THE Montagues and Capulets are definitely resident in Italy in Adrian Noble's intelligent RSC production (spon-sored by Allied Domecq), which has transferred from Stratford. Zubin Varla's dark Romeo and Lucy Whybrow's fair Juliet fall for each other in a vintage Verona of wooden shutters and weathered plas-ter. The high alleys are laced with washing lines. Life is spent al fresco, although always with a nagging sense of enclosure and rapidly narrowing perspectives, pressed home by Kendra Ullyart's design.

The Montague boys turn

up, in carnival mood and grotesque masks, for an open air ball in the Capulets' irongated courtyard. By day, bringing together the historic and the contemporary, these vouths loll at pavement cases. spasmodically swordfighting. The costumes place us formally in the Victorian era: seeds of a hardly maternal Sloane. Christopher Benjamin, as Juliet's father, is the fond papa who turns swiftly into a manhandling patriarch This Anglo-Mediterranean

vision questions cultural pi-geonholing. It suggests constrictions lurking in Latin cultures and passionate feelings churning inside supposedly inhibited Brits. production's emphasis is on intense adolescent emotions; behaviour veers between childish fits and adult action. The Montague boys are public school brats. The piazza

is a dangerous playground

When, in turn, Romeo first enters, seeing the brisk exit of his parents in the opposite direction, the diminutive Varia betrays a nervous spasm of blinking. The loss of a precious love reduces people to near-fits of rage and grief. Or that is the idea. The

disappointment, in practice, is that scarcely anyone is letting their emotions genuinely loose. Lady Capulet is only vaguely cold. Her husband is never really frighteningly violent. Romeo and Juliet's ticks and tantrums look tacked on

Varla and Whybrow, who

have matured since Stratford now speak verse with confidence. But that is not passion The chronic problem is this: there is no chemistry between these lovers, unless you count

Friar Lawrence is outstanding: downing a stiff espresso before picking dawn flowers; earthy, amusingly exasperated, firm, ultimately desperate. though having more social polish than humour, is re-

freshingly unwizened. Romeo and Juliet get into their stride too, once forced apart and racing into the arms of death. Whybrow grows swiftly into a determined woman, disillusioned by her elders, holding on to her ideals. Romeo, poisoned, dies in real pain, ecstatically released but not even granted

KATE BASSETT

OPERA: Impressive new principals breathe fire into a Puccini night hampered by tame staging and conducting

Eye-opener still kept in the dark

THE Royal Opera's revival of Tosca in December was one of the most dismal nights of the season. Considerable redress is now made with the present, final run of four performances, strongly cast and with each of the three principals playing their loles here for the first time.

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Lucy Whybrow and Zubin Varla play the star-crossed lovers in Adrian Noble's staging of Romeo and Juliet

Anthony Michaels-Moore has sung bits of Scarpia on record but until now not the whole role on stage. From the moment in Act I when he emerges from shadows, of which there are more than enough during the evening, he scarcely puts

an elegantly shod foot wrong. His chief of police has command and also the ability to slide back into the darkness to watch Tosca flap about in church, looking for her lover. Michaels-Moore's still cherubic features take on the smug smile of the school bully while Cavaradossi is given another twist on the torturer's rack. His baritone is currently in tremendous shape, ris-

ing powerfully over the chorus in the Te Deum and carrying a Gobbi-like snarl. The overall aura of silken venom makes him the best Scarpia here since Samuel Ramey. José Cura, the Argentinian tenor. has been taking on new roles and

Tosca

Covent Garden

exceptional rate. Puccini's Cavaradossi is the latest and he sings the painter with strong, burnished tones now expected of him.

Parts like Samson may have taken a bit of the lyricism from the voice, but Cura manages very well the gentle phrasing of memories and hopes in Act III. But the victory cries new composers for the ROH at an of the middle act suggest that the

heroic repertory will be his forte, in all senses of the word.

Cura added a nice dash of petulance in the opening scene with Tosca, remarking that he wants to get back to work and stop canoodling before the madonna. Tosca responds with equal irritation at such ungallant behaviour. She is sung by Nelly Miricioiu, a house favourite back in the 1980s and now returning after a long absence. Both voice and figure have filled out a bit. but she remains a first-class actress, flirting and cajoling and then at the

end re-enacting Scarpia's death with graphic detail. Her soprano now has an east European throb, not always used to good effect. Vissi d'arte was taken too quietly for too long to cast

its spell. Here Edward Downes may have to take some blame. He has been opera-hopping this month, declining Nabucco and taking over Tosca from Evelino Pidò. He took an almost serene view of Puccini, choosing slow tempos, full of orchestral colour but light on drama. Perhaps he was numbed by a production which now covers much of the crucial action in darkness.

JOHN HIGGINS



Superman in a Jaeger suit

Peter Ackroyd on the fund of energy that drove a genius in flight from the physical

BERNARD SHAW

The Ascent of

Superman

By Sally Peters

n this intriguing study, part biography and part sexual case history, Sally concealed a more frightened and awkward creature.

He was so afraid of life, in Peters has the courage to take Bernard Shaw seriously. In one of those Maxims for Revolutionists which preface Man and Superman, Shaw declared that "The unconscious self is the true genius."

In this spirit Sally Peters tries to isolate and to examine those emotions or situations of which Shaw himself might not have been aware. It is as if she were trying to bring into clear focus the invisible man who accompanied him on his great journey, but whom the artist himself refused to recognise.

She also goes on to suggest that this invisible man may even have been homosexual but the point is, perhaps, debatable. Hers is in any case a dangerous and speculative venture, as any textual scholar will tell you (if

he has time to lift his nose from the page). but it is not without its rewards. It is possible that some writers are great precisely

because they cannot, or will not, understand where the sources of their greamess lie.

The curious arrangements of Shaw's family and household during his childhood, for example, seem to have left him with the fantasy of being "a foundling": indeed, like many great artists who manage to project some impression of their personality to the public, he was largely if not wholly self-created. In flight from his own family, he established an intimate if imaginary alterna-tive household which included Shakespeare, Goethe and Mozart. He bartered the security of mundane and familial ties, according to this account, for the more precarious but permanent bonds of cultural in-

Sally Peters is very good on the symbolic detail of that life which he preferred to forget. At the age of 16 he became a Dublin clerk, for example, and intermittently dreamt of the office for much of his life. Even the most tatty business premises can be the arena for tyranny and cowardice, and Shaw's continuing horror at his temporary confinement is a sure sign that the carapace of body. Shaw's attitudes to-

He was so afraid of life, in fact, that he decided to dominate it. He controlled the chaos of the world by simply treating it as the material for his art; if he moved fast or far enough, no one would ever catch him. On looking back at this "destiny" he claimed that "like Goethe, I knew all along"; but he could not have been so certain at the time.

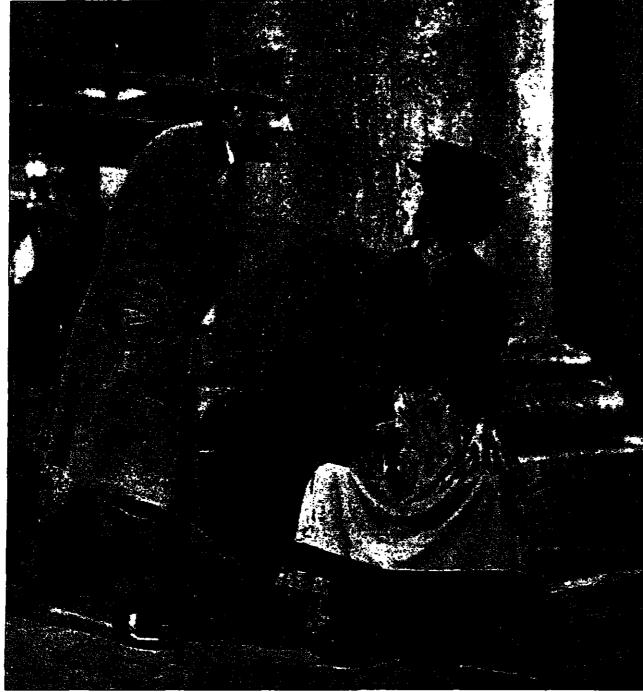
Eventually he moved from Dublin to London, so that he might be able to recreate himself in every sense. The process of self-dramatisation began when he started to write musical criticism under an assumed name; when not scribbling down reviews in the Reading Room of the British Museum he spent his time. like any late Romantic. in studying Marx and Wagner.

He also began to read books of etiquette, but the drawing room was not his natural habitat. aware of his own talent, and so frightened of its being

rebuffed, that he shunned social life. He preferred to lecture in under-heated halls. or make speeches on street

He wasted a great deal of time as a journalist as well (he even descended to book reviewing) but the years under the dome of the Reading Room were helpful in one sense. He was biding his time, waiting for the right moment to strike, sharpening his imagination so that it would effortlessly impale the public. A sense of occasion is necessary for genius, of course, but Shaw also possessed those two other attributes which are essential for its proper growth: he named them himself, accurately, as "irrepressible gaiety" and "a prodigous fund of vital energy". No writer should attempt to take on the

world without them. There are times when Sally Peters's fondness for psychological jargon affects her prose, but she is generally very good at describing the energet-ic vagaries of Shaw's ambi-



A fear of the feminine? Rex Harrison and Audrey Hepburn in My Fair Lady (1964), adapted from Shaw's Pygmalion

hol, let alone his health in general, are in that sense highly significant --- rooted, as they were, in his deep sense of personal threat and his disgust at the physicality of his own body. He learnt to conquer life by etherealising it and turning it into a play while at the same time he conducted his affairs, both social and romantic, as a form of drama.

In fact, like other artists who live in fear or distrust of physical being, he lived off words. In his various and always theoretical love affairs he sighed words and he cried them. In the ordinary world he was a very lean man dressed letters he was a demon, a god and a Casanova. The amorous enemy in the world but that

correspondence between him and Ellen Terry must constitute the longest epistolary novel since Pamela.

e managed the same trick with his drama since. by writing essays and "maxims" around it, he was able to fashion the very climate of opinion by which he wished to be judged. He did not only create plays, he created his critics. "Art," as Sally Peters puts it, "was a way to live on the earth while

So he remained in all resaid that Shaw had not an

none of his friends liked him? He was delicate and fastidious, shying away from any touch of flesh and hiding his

fear or guilt in that mist of words which followed him everywhere. Sally Peters detects within him not so much a fear of the feminine as a fear of femininity, especially his own. In fact, one of the central arguments of this study is that Shaw was a latent or at least non-practising homosexual; certainly, in the Jaeger suit, he would have made an impracti-

He might possibly be placed somewhere upon what is already a very long list, but the is a matter of debate. Not everyone is wholly convinced

by what Sally Peters calls "current gay theorists".

Her book is in fact most interesting on Shaw's career

and, since it is concerned with his "ascent", it is not particularly surprising that she should devote less than 30 pages to his last 50 years. Yet there may be a larger point to be made. Shaw ceased to be wholly interesting when he had created the persona which was to guide him through the rest of his life. His struggle was more significant than his victory, for in the process he found a vision of the world. Or perhaps it found him. "This is the true joy in life," as he said. "the being used for a purpose recognised by yourself as a

From peacock to sparrow

DJUNA BARNES was an early practitioner of the celebrity interview. Her work for American magazines was admired for its wit ("If you are sharp you can catch glimpses of [Diamond Jim] Brady between his jewellery) but not always trustworthy: she belonged to that school which lunches with the subject first, and invents the conversation later. "Have you been making notes?" "I don't have to. My memory makes a paragraph out of a note automatically."

Why not put words into her subjects' mouths? Few interviewees could match her apercus. Yet for years she scorned writing fiction, "things made up entirely out of thin air". And as Phillip Herring demonstrates, she could never have invented fiction more compelling and bizarre than her own life.

She was born in 1892 in a log cabin on a mountain overlook-

ing the Hudson River. Her American father, Wald, never with making a living but took a mistress, adding five more siblings to the .four Djuna al-

ready had. Her grandmother. Zadel, was a journalist, poet and advocate of free love: a progressive influence on them all. Zadel had a salon in London in the 1890s - in unlikely Shepherd's Bush - to which Oscar Wilde's mother Speranza, and Marx's daugh-

ter Tussy came.
Djuna shared a bed with her grandmother and seems to have indulged in peculiar horse-play with Zadel's pendulous breasts. And it fell to Djuna to mop up after all Wald's children, which threw her off the idea of motherhood

Small wonder that she grew up strange, bisexual, egocentric. She was an adventurous young journalist, willing to undertake any stunt - including being dropped from a high building into a fireman's blanket, and describing how it feels to be forcibly fed. She could turn in a clever piece on how to look decorous when found dead by suicide. She called her journalism "rubbish" but was earning \$1,000 a piece by 1921.

Her early lovers were a rum lor notably Putzi Hanfstaengl. who became Hitler's foreign press minister after the Führer heard him play the piano. He abandoned Djuna saying he making." How true.

must have a German mother for his children. By the time she arrived in

Paris in the 1920s she had decided that women were better in bed: Edna St Vincent Millay was one of those same pled during her Greenwich Village days. Thehma Wood was her great passion another was Elsa von Preside Loringhoven, celebrated the Dadaists and given wearing a birdcage with birds on her head, tin ca swinging from her nipples

and black painted lips. in this galere, Djuna divel-oped her world-weary. Hase journalism: discarding drum fact, she could spot file quintessence of her subje celebrity; but she, the interviewer - chic, amusing - was the real star. The made bohemian café society of 1920s Paris, where everyone drank a lot and wrote a bit, was hers to seize. Her writing could be

Montparnasse

raises her

mandarin eyes.

kohl") aphoris-

tic ("In youth

in old age one

vivid (Kiki de

Valerie Grove

DJUNA The Life and Work of Djuna Barnes By Phillip Herring Viking, £30

> is a sparrow") but also often impenetrable: how can a laugh sound "like a submerged French pastry shop"? Her one famous novel, Nightwood (1936) - "a soul talking to itself in the heart of the night", but actually a vengeful tirade on Thelma earned her the patronage of T. S. Eliot, but her American publisher had to admit that "it is very difficult to extricate the story from the mass of brilliant but somewhat mad writ-

PEGGY GUGGENHEIM took her up and gave her an income but her decline (to age 90) was long and sad. James Joyce, an admirer, gave her unbound proofs of Ulysses, which she later sold, in poverty, to Harvard for \$125. In later years Druna wrote that she had always feared the poorhouse - reminiscent of Diana Vreeland's conviction that every woman sees herself ending her days rattling a tin can - but even as a reformed alcoholic, prone to melancholia and chronic grouchiness. she retained her snappy wit ("Do you see why women have become bitches, and harpies, and furies? Because men can go to bed with them only so.") Youth, but saw through the Antonia White. "It's a wom-Nazi thuggery and got out. He an's only hope, except for lace-

Dizzy heights at the Hotel Cecil

T ntil Disraeli's 1874 election victory, intellisumed, with the Tories having lost five elections in a row, that the future of British politics would inevitably be Liberal. Yet in the 122 years since, the Conservatives have been in government for three-quarters of the time. They now rate as the most consistently successful political party in any Western democracy. In this book, Richard Shannon, Professor of Modern History at the University of Wales and author of Crisis of Imperialism and The Age of Disraeli explains why. Through a scholarly and painstaking analysis of the sources, he ascribes the startling transformation in Tory fortunes to a mixture of deliberate leader-

Andrew Roberts

THE AGE OF SALISBURY, 1881-1902 **By Richard Shannon** Longman, E72

ship, political accidents and what T.S. Eliot called history's "vast, impersonal forces". The leadership was provided as much by Lord Salisbury as by Disraeli. In statistical terms, Salisbury was a far more successful Conservative leader than his predecessor, forming three governments lasting 14 years compared to

Disraeli's two lasting six. But whereas Salisbury gave the electorate reassurance, integrity, a growing empire and genuine candour. Dizzy of-

PURE PLEASURE

HER NEW NUMBER ONE BESTSELLER

CORONET - A MEMBER OF THE HODDER HEADLINE GROUP

fered wit, style and stardust. Salisbury had an identifiable political philosophy but Disraeli created a myth, and as Shannon points out, as a result "Disraeli dead was more important for his career than Disraeli alive".

Dead, Disraeli could be the advocate of Tory democracy; alive he did all in his power to promote aristocratic government and stymie the burgeon-ing National Union, advocate of true Tory democracy.

Dead, he could inspire the Primrose League, established in 1883 in his memory and which numbered 1.5 million people by the century's end, many of them working class men and women; alive he could only offer paltry acts of social reform to halt progress.

Dead, Disraeli could be the Suez Canal-buying. India Empressing, Crystal Palace speechifying Earl of Beaconsfield, but had he survived he would have had to face the sober realities of German and American long-term threats to British supremacy.

These instead had to be dealt with by Salisbury, who while paying all necessary lip service to the Dizzy myth. spent his 17 years as party leader producing solid achievements greater than those his old Chief managed, for all his genius at prestidigitation. There never was much uplift to be had from Salisbury." argues Shannon, whose book concentrates mainly on do-

mestic politics. Shannon ascribes the emergence of the new suburban Villa Toryism" to Salisbury's psephological genius during the struggles over parliamentary reform in 1884-85. Salisbury's Conservative Party stood, not for nebuluous Disraelian "uplift", but for respectability. individual rights, social mobility, the rule of law, a market-driven economy and non-collectivist social betterment of the people - a platform that has served the party well for over a century.

The modern perception of

heavy and



Salisbury uniting the nation: this patriotic cartoon by Tom Merry appeared in St Stephen's Review, 1891

humourless could not be further from the truth. It was certainly a dry, intellectual, even cynical English wit, but it is still funny today. Indeed, Salisbury has the power genuinely to amuse long after some of Disraeli's more contrived witticisms have palled.

hannon correctly identifies Lord Randolph Churchill as a dangerous demagogue, who Salisbury had to defeat if he was to preserve the aristocratic cousinhood which ruled Tory politics from the machinations of the National Union caucus. A Churchill victory would have led to directly-elected party leaders and eventually the end of limited government.

That Salisbury was able so to stuff his post-1900 government with relations that it was nicknamed the Hotel Cecil, and then pass on the premiership itself to his nephew Arthur Balfour, is testament to the scale of his victory over Churchill. Shannon is left aghast at the naked nepotism but prefers it to the Churchill alternative.

It is clear that professor Shannon has thought deeply over many years about the impact Lord Salisbury made on Tory politics. He describes the party Salisbury built as "the best representative in British politics of the cultural and political values of the Victorian bourgeois world". and as such a fine counter balance to the forces of totalitarianism of this century. The excellent Longman History of the Conservative Party, spanning the period 1830-1975 is. after many years, almost complete. Shannon's two contributions have been central to the project, showing how the party Disraeli called an "Organised Hypocrisy" became a formida-

Andrew Roberts is writing the authorised life of Lord

A matter of consent

daunted when faced with Carnal Knowledge: 250 pages about rape rape by strangers, friends, relatives and husbands, in war, gang rape and at the end of it all a system where most rapists are apparently never brought to justice.

It is an uncomfortable, but an important and serious book. Sue Lees, a professor at the University of North London, has studied rape thoroughly. She uses the findings of three research studies: 31 rape trials were analysed and 116 victims of rape or attempted rape were questioned.

The results are disturbing. Rape victims suffer guilt and shame. Many cannot go out or have normal relationships. Some cannot stop scrubbing themselves. Many lose all their confidence. One in five of the women were virgins at the time of the rape and most were raped by men they knew.

The research disposes of many stereotypes. The press will normally depict rapists as loners or psychopaths: but they are usually acquaintances, not strangers. They are not more likely to be black or to come from any particular class, or to be noticeably different; they usually seem normal and often charming. Their distinguishing feature is their extreme, hostile attitude

Sue Lees's thesis is that most rape victims in Britain get little redress. "I have been left to rot by society and no one helped me." one woman said. The number of women reporting rape has doubled since 1985. Police handling of rape complainants has greatly improved. Yet the conviction rate is falling. About 8.4 per cent of reported cases result in a conviction. Many cases are

dropped. The adversarial justice system, where the objective is not to reach the truth but to win, is at its most flawed in these cases of interpersonal private violence. In most rape trials the question is not whether or not the act took place but whether or not the woman consented to it. To



Brutal: Goya's Scenes from the Spanish War (c 1810)

Vivien Stern

CARNAL KNOWLEDGE By Sue Lees Hamish Hamilton, £20

defence must show her to be a liar and of dubious reputation. Legal measures brought in to stop a woman's past life and sexual history being used to damage her credibility have not succeeded.

o women who take the decision to report rape are subjected to vicious questioning by the defence in order to discredit them and prove consent. How much have they had to drink? Have they (if they are white) had relationships in the past with black men? Is their underwear transparent? Their knickers are displayed in the courtroom, handled with rubber

If they seem calm and cool in court it will be suggested that they must be lying. If it had really been rape they would be more upset. If they are upset it will be suggested they are hysterical and not to be believed. An absence of injuries suggests they did not struggle enough, even though they may have had a knife at their throats. One judge set out his view of how women provoke rape: by the clothes they

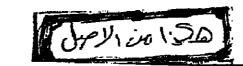
wear, drinking a lot, dancing provocatively, going back to a defendant's flat, being out late, asking the defendant back to their home, taking drugs and soliciting. The credibility of the male

defendants, on the other hand, is assessed on their profession. their lack of a previous criminal record and their social standing. No questions are asked about their past life or their drinking habits.
The press often presents the

view that women alleging rape are making malicious allegations to get revenge or cover up a sexual encounter. This book makes it clear how unlikely this is. It is hard enough for genuine victims to get their case to court.

Sue Lees has some proposals for reform. She welcomes the 1991 decision that rape can take place in marriage. She wants to see a legal definition of consent based on an idea of mutually negotiated sexual relations. She asks, "Who represents the woman?" Certainly not the prosecution, which represents the state. More women judges would help. as ∕

would more judicial training. These are worthy proposals in the short term. But the book is asking two deeper ques-tions. Is the adversarial justice system the best we could have? And what are we to do about the violence that provides so many young men with their



THE TIMES THE RISTAY AND From peacon TH to sparrow . T

Ben Macintyre on Allan Pinkerton, the dogged, bullying Scot who was America's first private eye

incalculable debt to Allan Pinkerton, the Scottish-born founder of the great American detective agency and the granddaddy of gumshoes

As the first "private eye", a term that evolved from his motto "We Never Sleep" below the image of an open eve. Pinkerton and his men were responsible for waging war on some of the most notorious outlaws in post-bellum America, from Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid to the James Brothers. The Pinkertons also set up the first military intelligence gathering service during the Civil War and established the closest thing to an American Scotland Yard.

But while many of Pinkerton's adversaries have become picaresque legends, the detective himself remains a largely unknown and deeply controversial figure.

An inspired detective and upholder of law and liberty, Pinkerton was also a rather repellent man, a bully, a prig In the name of the law

and, all too often, a thunder-

James Alexander Mackay, the award-winning biographer of Robert Burns, is the first historian to attempt to shade in both the darker and lighter sides of Pinkerton and the result is the tightest and most reliable account so far, a portrait of a man at once deeply admirable and quite

Filleting out the real Allan Pinkerton is no easy task, despite the vast quantity of documentary material stored at the Pinkerton archive in California, for in addition to his talents as a sleuth, the detective was a master of public relations who churned out no fewer than 18 books running to more than three million words in total. Most were penned by ghost-writ-ers, many are factually dubious and all are egregiously

poverty in 1819, the young Pinkerton was a militant Chartist who fled Scotland (and possible prosecution) to set himself up as a cooper in

Illinois. There he became, in quick succesteur snooper, a ALLAN detective in the PINKERTON Chicago police The Eye Who Never Slept head of a com-By James Mackay pany that co

of detective agents and hunted down crime of all sorts. Dogged, energetic and riing exception. diculously brave. Pinkerton

was a fierce opponent of slavery and an active stationmaster in the underground railroad, smuggling slaves to freedom in Canada. With the outbreak of war he became

ordinated a

vast world-

territory and exposing treachery within the Washington political elite.

Pinkerton's tools may now seem obvious - the methodical accumulation of evidence. detailed crimi-

shakeable honesty -- but at a time when the forces of Mainstream, £20 law and order were criminal-

and a reput-

ation for un-

and often actively criminal. he was a glaring, self-promot-But Pinkerton was also an

anti-crime crusader, pro-pelled by an unswerving faith in his own moral rectitude. I feel no power on earth is able to check me, no power in Heaven or Hell can influence

as can be ascertained, there was never a single occasion on which he believed himself to be in the wrong.

Like most zealots, Pinkerton was at heart a moral bully and the most valuable and novel aspects of Mr Mackay's biography lie in its exposure of the psychological puritan-ism that drove his lust for upholding the law. The author does his best to endear his subject, but he is too honest to hide the picture of a sanctimonious egotist who neering to his family, auto-cratic towards his employees

and insufferably pleased with Having made his fortune and reputation, Pinkerton built himself a grand estate in Illinois with 85,000 imported Scottish larches, a retinue of

black flunkies in blue uni-

War heroics. From here he continued to run his agency with a wrathful rod of iron. He died in 1884, celebrated by some, loathed by many and Pinkerton's estate is now a

irascible to the last. ruin; but the Pinkerton Detective Agency has become a security firm with 250 offices around the world and 50,000 employees which, among oth-

er tasks, arranges security at the Oscar night ceremonies. The heroic outlaw, the romantic bandit with the heart of gold, is a staple and nourishing myth of popular American culture. But Allan Pinkerton, who unintentionally furnished Hollywood with some of its best tales, was exactly the reverse: a man who made conformity to the law into his religion, and whose heart was carved from the coldest Scottish granite.

Ben Macintyre's forthcoming book, The Napoleon of Crime, is a biography of Adam Worth, one of the Pinkertons' most celebrated

Still dancing to the music of time

Derwent May is charmed by the diaries of a writer whose recollections reflect his

own life and his fictional creations

JOURNALS 1987-1989

By Anthony Powell

An undated photograph of Pinkerton's agency in Chicago

nthony Powell was 90 last December, and does not stir much now from his house in Somerset, where he lives with his wife Violet. But his mind and imagination are as alert as when, over a period of 25 years from his forties to his sixties, he wrote his great comedy about that swath of English life where society intermingles with Bohemia, A Dance to the Music of Time.

This is the second volume of his diaries to be published, and it is both startling and delightful to find how similar the flavour of them is to the flavour of Dance (as he calls it). In the novel sequence, the polar opposites around which the whole panorama revolves are the glorious comic figure of Widmerpool, who is pure will-topower without a trace of human understanding, and Nick, the narrator, who seems to see everything, and in a wholly natural way to be present whenever anything interesting is

happening. Powell may not move far from Somerset in these journals, yet like Nick, with his observations and his memories

lter of consen

 and now his abundant hospitality, always giving lunch to visitors

— he brings another fascinating world into being about him.

He goes to the doctor's for a tetanus booster. Tetanus Booster would be a good name for a US Senator, probably a Southerner," he thinks. (That "probably a Southerner" is the authentic note of Nick.) He reads a biography of John Beijeman, and memories crowd in - how when Betjeman was staying at the house of Powell's sister-in-law, Lady Mary Clive, before it was "on the grid", he insisted on being driven to the nearest house with electricity so that he could use his electric razor. That reminds him in turn that Betjeman had once made a passionate speech against electric carillons in churches. "What a hypocrite that man is,"

Ronald Knox had commented. The novelist Vidia Naipaul comes to lunch. (An extra piquancy is added to the diaries, of course, by the fact that all its characters are real and many wellknown.) What Powell records from his conversation is just the kind of unexpected remark Nick would have noted with casual delight: when Naipaul made a speech in America after collecting a literary prize, he was "a shade disappointed he had not managed to bore more acutely an audience of rich businessmen".

There is the fastidious Naipaul in a nutshell.

Robert Conquest comes to lunch on his visits from America and this always brings up thoughts of their friend Philip Larkin. Conquest tells him that among scabrous elements in Larkin's letters there are "odds and ends of fladge". Powell shrewdly anticipates what the reaction will be when the letters are published. The savage remarks about each other in the letters of Larkin, Conquest and Kingsley Amis are "probably acceptable within circle of three old friends as satire that will be understood, but rather different when offered to general public including malicious journalists".

Books do furnish a diary, and one constantly interesting theme in this one is Powell's comments on his reading. He goes through Shakespeare, and notices that Fluellen, laying down the law on military matters in Henry V. is exactly

like Horace Probert, my Company Commander in the 1/5th Welch". He wonders if Lewis Carroll's King of Hearts, replying to the Mad Hatters "Im a poor man" with "You're certainly a

poor speaker", was not inspired by Parolles, in All's Well That Ends Well, saving he is a poor man and a courtier observing that he is a "naughty orator". He rereads Lawrence's Women in Love.

It reminds him that the wife of Boris Christov, the real-life original of Lawrence's Libidnikov, once worked in a bookshop, and when she was asked "Have you a copy of Prometheus Un-bound?" replied "No, but I'm almost sure I've seen a bound copy on the shelves."

On contemporary writers he tends to be rather tart — a trace, perhaps of the vinegar of rivalry. That is not to be found in Nick - but, after all, there is a touch of Widmerpool in everyone. The tartness is better used in his attack on two television programmes, one on Evelyn Waugh, one on Writers and the War, for which he had been interviewed. His comments reflect exactly what Matthew Parris was saying in The Spectator last week: documentaries are simply "plays written by the producer, those who appear in them actors who speak the lines, which are cut.

if not what producer wants".
In the end, though, it is something more than all these delectable items that makes these diaries such an alluring read: Powell's day-to-day life just draws one into its rhythm. You get concerned about



From literary lunches to dentistry, Anthony Powell is a writer able to convey the alluring rhythm of day-to-day life: the author at home in Somerset, 1985

continually driving him to the dentist.
You get interested in Henry the cockerel. who comes from nowhere and installs himself in the dentist's yard, and "taps on windows where secretaries sit, sulking

Food and wine consumed are also and his family go out to eat in Frome — and that when he visits Roy Jenkins, he should get a bottle worthy of his host's

the fate of his lower plate, which is when his breakfast is late".

regularly noted, with Powell himself cooking many curries for guests, and much good claret drunk. In fact, you get much more concerned than Powell does that he should get a good lunch when he reputation. He does.

Too many cooks poison the soup

ister in 1990 has already become the subject of some self-justifying memoirs, not least from the lady herself. Philip Hensher's intriguing, if inchoate, second novel offers an alternative viewpoint: that of a House of Commons clerk, a post occupied by three of the novel's protagonists, John, Henry and Louis and, until recently, by the author himself.

This below-stairs view of great events offers fascinating detail about the workings of the Commons:

its labyrinthine Michael Arditti corridors, arcane customs and mundane procedures. Its portrait of the

relationship beand MPs neatly complements that between civil servants and ministers, familiar from Yes Minister.

What it does not do is offer any new insight into the drama's central figure. The description of the Prime Minister listening to Geoffrey Howe's resigna-tion speech, or of Louis encountering her in the division lobby contains nothing beyond the popular image of her ferrous self-confidence and regai sex appeal. This, in turn, relates to the

broader problem of the narrative voice. Although the bulk of the book is written in the third person, a stray reference to "the beauty of women like, and unlike, me" can hardly be a reference to the bearded portrait on the jacket. At times notably at the beginning and end - the narrator appears to be Mrs Thatcher. A dream is described in which she reads

The defeat of Margaret the word "omniscient". And Thatcher as Prime Min- yet the idea of the Prime yet the idea of the Prime Minister as an all-knowing narrator remains no more than a literary conceit. Even were she privy to the goingson in rent-boys bedrooms, it is unlikely that she would describe them in such detail and with such sympathy. Nor does it seem credible that Mrs Thatcher's speculations on the aetiology of homosexuality ever centred on the films of

> The confusion extends to the fictional time of writing (it appears to be ten years in the future) and to

> > the prose style. This is a mixture of the impersonality of parliamentary reports, the cadences of the Authorised

an attempt to write down the words of men, and it was called Hansard") and the flip dismissal of camp (The next day the House was recalled; there was a war or some thing.") Far more successful is the dialogue, which is sharp and genuinely quirky, particu-larly as spoken by John's two



SATURDAY BOOKS

Tunku Varadarajan on the memoirs of Phoolan Devi, left, India's 'Bandit Queen'

Plus: Elizabeth Buchan on Joanna Trollope's latest

The perils of impersonation

ian Isler's first novel, The Prince of West End Avenue, was a comic set-piece, located in a Manhattan residential home for elderly Jews. Once set up, it could almost have written itself; a mark not of a deficiency of literary imagination, but rather of its author's almost mathematical understanding of it. Isler was until recently an English professor in America, and it shows. Having started his own literary career late in life, his fictional voice is tempered by an academic supraconsciousness which exerts an occasionally suffocating control over the proceedings.

Kraven Images returns to the themes Isler staked out in his first novel: the comedy of institutions (this time an American university), sex, superannuation and the psychological darkness of the diaspora generation. This last deeply felt; but where Saul Bellow permits the clot of the Holocaust to proceed with fatal stealth through the arteries of a novel. Isler tries vainly to apprehend it.

The tidiness of his fiction is essentially in conflict with this great stain: its light-heartedness rejects, almost viscerally, the graft of horror. Isler in fact has much more in common Rachel Cusk

KRAVEN IMAGES By Alan Isler Cape, £14.99

with David Lodge than with Bellow, with whom he is fated superficially to be compared. The risqué erudition, the unrepentant masculinity, the playfulness bordering on farce, are here shot through with glimpses of a more troubled sensibility.

Kraven Images probes, amid the contrivances of a comic plot, some of what are ostensibly Isler's own experiences: a wartime childhood spent in England, a move as a young man to American academe, a return many years later to settle in London. Into these wanderings is introduced the notion of impersonation, in the form of Nicholas Kraven and his ne'er-do-well cousin Marko. Nicholas, a clever boy of slender means, is importuned by his idle, richer cousin to sit his exams for him, in exchange for the promise of funds to allow Nicholas eventually to go to university. When Marko reneges and instead goes to university him-self. Nicholas continues to



moonlight on his behalf, apparently for the love of it, writing all his essays and finally even his PhD thesis. Marko abruptly dies and Nicholas decides after much diligent agonising to take up on false (but not that false) pretences the lecturing job Marko had been offered at Mosholu College in the Bronx.

We take up his story some years later, when Nicholas is entrenched in late middle-age and has carried off his deception to the point of becoming an academic cliché: disillusioned, salacious, envious of

the success of others. He is also selfish, dishonest and cruel, having apparently taken on more than one aspect of Marko's identity. This is Isler's way of showing how easy it is to become someone you never set out to be; and how, too, the emigre can incur the loss not just of a sense of place, but of family, morality With nothing to shore him

up, Nicholas's craven instincts flourish unchecked. He maintains an affair with his neighbour's wife, tries to seduce a young student and passes off another student's discoveries as his own, all the while compiling a volume of his own burlesque verse amusingly entitled Tickety-Boo. Things come, naturally enough, to a head and he is forced to return to England, there to face his inevitable demons.

Isler evidently likes a grand finale, but it takes a brave man to end a novel with his antihero sitting weeping at the completion of his own rite of passage. There is another, better book beneath the surface of Kraven Images, one which might make its readers weep instead; and should he ever tire of his love of the fantastical. Isler will undoubt-

and the experience can be made the control of the c

Douglas Sirk.

KITCHEN VENOM By Philip Hensher Hamish Hamilton, E16

Version of the Bible ("At this time there was

daughters. Francesca and Jane. The familial eccentricity re-

calls the work of Ivy Compton-Burnett just as the political milieu inevitably does Trollope (significantly, these are two authors to whom reference is made in the text). Although Hensher fails to synthesise them or, indeed, to link political and domestic venom on any but a basic level, it is his portrait of sibling rivalry that carries the sharpest sting.



novel, Next of Kin

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TRAVEL NEWS

Early test for Italian leaders

n the past few years, the great Italian cities have been almost submerged under a tide of tourists. Groups of Japanese, Americans, Germans, British. French and, increasingly, Russians shuffle after their guides — brightly coloured umbrellas held high around the sites of Rome, Florence and Venice.

Around them surge milling masses of teenagers from continental Europe. Together they are an almost intolerable burden on cities which have withstood the ravages of centuries.

The Italians have, perhaps, allowed themselves to become rather blase about their historical monuments. Whether it is the Duomo in Florence or the Colosseum in Rome, there are unmistakable signs that successive governments have spent too little keeping them in the best of condition

In the centre of Rome, for example, is one of the world's most ancient sports arenas. The Circo Massimo - where chariots used to race nearly 2.000 years ago - is now unkempt and litterstrewn. Archaeologically important ruins stand neglected and surrounded by an ugly fence.

It does not require a townplanning expert to see how the circus could be linked to the Colosseum. the Palatine and the Forum in one cultural area. It would need to be a well-kept. signposted site free from coaches.



Italy is experiencing surge in tourism beyond its wildest expectations. You cannot blame tour operators for meeting that demand and for obtaining the best possible deals. Thomson, for example, charges British holidaymakers £589 a person for an eight-day trip to Rome and Florence, staying in four-star hotels and in-cluding flights, transfers and breakfast. At the cheaper end. a three-day break in Rome is advertised in Thomson's City Breaks bro-

chure for £219. Russians pay less, and the swirling crowds of teenagers less still. Is it any wonder the world is beating a path to Rome and other Italian cities when such bargains are available?

The question confronting the new Italian Government is how visitors can be both welcomed and controlled. It will be pressed to find a way during the European Union summit in Florence in June. when buildings now being cleaned should be free of their scaffolds and shrouds.

The world of tourism will be hoping that the newly elected leaders will have the wisdom and the cash to do the right thing.

Bargains of the week — from trips abroad and round Britain to special deals on hotels, ferries and flights

HOLIDAYS

SPECIAL offers to Turkey this week include a week's bed and breakfast in Fethiye and return flights from £240 per person from Accommodation Overseas. Departures on May 3 and 10. Details: 0181-977 2984.

A ROOM-ONLY arrangement for a week in Turkey is available for even less, £149, from Page & Moy, with flights from Gatwick on May 7. Details: 0116-250 7116.

■ WATERCOLOUR painting holidays in May, led by respected artists, are available to European destinations from Simply Travel and include a formight in Turkey from May 5 for 1785 per person including half-board and flights. Details: 0181-995 3883.

■ BULB-FIELD breaks to Amsterdam from 5219 per person are being offered by Crystal Cities until May 22. Prices include return flights from Heathrow, two nights B&B and a visit to Keukenhof Gardens, Details: 0181-390 9900.

A FREE hire car with every villa booked during May and early June is being offered by Club Pollensa Holidays, which specialises in private accommodation in the north of Major-ca, Weekly villa rentals start from £335 in May. Details: 01903 230128.

HARLEQUIN Worldwide Travel is lopping 100 off holidays to Spice Island Inn. Grenada for midweek departures from May 1 to July 19. A suite for a week with half-board and flights costs £1,026 per person. Details: 01708 852780.

GOA for a fortnight for £339 per person is available from Advantage Travel Centres with a flight from Gatwick on May 2 and room-only accommodation. Details: 0171-323 3408.

■ TWO weeks for the price of one at a beach resort in Kenya is on offer from Somak Holidays with prices for half-board starting at £399 per person. The offer lasts from May 5 to 26 with flights from Gatwick to Mombasa. Details: 01SI-423 3000.

■ MALTA Direct Travel is offering a week's bed and breakfast at the Continental Hotel, Msida, and return flights from Gatwick for £109 per person, a £40 saving, with departures on May 6 and 13. Details: 0181-785 3233.



Road to Istanbul: late bargains to Turkey are among the special deals this week

FLIGHTS

ALITALIA is launching a new daily service to Florence from Gatwick on May 1 with introductory fares of £175 for economy and £415 for business class. Details: 0171-602 7111.

IBERIA Airlines has a new fare for those wanting to combine a visit to Barcelona or Madrid with a resort holiday. A round trip from London or Manchester to Ibiza and Madrid starts from £209. Details: 0171-830 0011.

■ MEMBERS of British Airways Executive Chub can receive discounts of up to 30 per cent on excursion fares to all destinations. Bookings must be made by May 17 for outbound travel before June 15. Details: 01793 542114.

QANTAS and British Airways are charging from £699 for peak season travel to Australia. To qualify, you must book before May 31 and travel on selected dates between November and March. Details: 0345 222111.

■ DISCOUNTED Virgin Atlantic transatlantic tickets are being marketed by Travel Warehouse. Depart before April 30 and a return trip to New York costs £195 and San Francisco £240. Details: 0171-414 8808.

FERRIES

HOVERSPEED is selling peak-season departures through a broker, Eurodrive, at up to 60 per cent off brochure prices. A £129 fare is quoted on Dover-Calais, £99 on Folkestone-Boulogne for travel until October 31. All fares apply to a car and up to five passengers. Details: 0181-324 4000.

SEA FRANCE has rushed in a 540 fare for Dover-Calais five-day returns during April. valid for a car and up to nine passengers. Book 48 hours in advance. Details: 01304 204204.

■ P&O European Ferries is offering day trips throughout the year for £19 per car plus £4 per passenger on Dover-Calais (£29 on Saturdays). Details: 0990 980980.

■ STENA Line has short-stay offers until May 22 on all its routes, including Fishguard-Rosslare for 194 for a car and five passengers. Details: 0990 707070.

■ SWANSEA Cork Ferries is promoting three festivals for seafood lovers during May with special fares across the Irish Sea. Fares start at £135 for weekend returns, £149 for mid-week fares. Details: 01792 456116.

HOTELS

LEARN to drive in a weekend at the Blackwell Grange Hotel in Darlington. For £224 a person. you get two nights half-board, up to 12 hours of qualified instruction and discounts on further lessons if needed. Details: 01325 509955.

AUDLEYS Wood, a Grade II-listed country house hotel on the edge of the Hampshire Downs, is holding a series of murder mystery weekends hosted by a former police detective using real-life detection methods. Price is £155 a person for two nights, including meals and wine at dinner. Details: 01250 817555.

STAY FOR two weeks and pay for one at the Round Hill resort on Jamaica's north coast for 1950 per person including flights and transfers. Details from Elegant Resorts: 01244 897888.

■ VISIT Stapley Water Gardens, which claim to be the world's largest water gardens with more than an acre of tropical pond, when staying on a weekend break at the Stoke-on-Trent Most House. Price is £55 per person for one night's accommodation, half-board, including entry to Stapley. Details: 01782 609988.

THE RITZ Hotel restaurant reopens tomorrow after extensive refurbishment. A new threecourse lunch costs £28 per person. Details: 0171-

■ BAGPIPE lessons and a guide to enjoying more than of whiskies are some of the activities on offer at Perthshire's premier country house hotel. Kinnaird. Room rates start at £200 a night, including full Scottish breakfast. Details:

■ HARTWELL House near Aylesbury, part of the Historic House Hotels consortium, is offering two-day summer breaks starting this Sunday until October 13. Price is £117 per person per night, including dinner and entry to nearby Blenheim Palace or other local historic properties. Details: 01296 747444.

HIGHBULLEN Hotel in north Devon is offering residential fishing courses for beginners and those with more experience from £52.50 to £80 per person per night, including dinner. A 10 per cent discount applies for stays of four nights or more until the end of May. Details: 01769 540501.

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France cuts prices to lure British

By Tony Dawe and Steve Keenan

CROSS-CHANNEL (erry companies are discounting their fares, camping operators to France are cutting prices and Parisian hotels are offering special rates as the travel industry strives to combat the continuing decline in British visitors to France.

Industry leaders hope that the special offers will draw Britons across the Channel despite the poor exchange rate and prospects of another hot summer at home. They accept, however, that many will con-tinue to delay booking in the hope of better deals.

Many tour operators to France are reporting a drop of 30 per cent in bookings this year after a flat 1995, when nine million Britons visited France. But some sections of the industry have noticed a slight upturn in interest. P&O European Ferries says its ships carried more cars on the Dover-Calais service this Easter than last and that this month's bookings for summer have risen. Ian Todd of P&O says: "We are now forecasting only an 8 per cent drop in business on the cross-Channel routes this year, which will be a good result, considering the tunnel is in full operation."

P&O and Stena are offering discounts on brochure prices this summer and tour operators are seizing on them to promote cut-price deals.

French Country Camping

this week reduced prices by up to 38 per cent, making two weeks' camping in Aquitaine from May 17 available for a family of six for £185, com-pared with £298 in its brochure. The company is also reducing the number of sites available. Mark Hammerton, its managing director, says: "In the past few weeks we have seen an upturn, but it is

not going to be a good year."

Sunsites has also reduced prices by up to 25 per cent in high season, curning the cost of a two-week mobile-home holiday in the Vendée in August from El.400 to El.046, and Canvas Holidays is also offering £300 off packages booked

by May 31. Paris hotels also started a big marketing campaign this week, including tactical price promotions, as occupancy in the first two months of the year fell to 56 per cent, from 61 per cent for the same period last year. Some 131 hotels have joined with Utell International, the reservations agency, in the promotion, which will last throughout the year, including the summer.

Elizabeth Powell, of the French Tourist Office in London, says: "We are still looking at a 15 to 20 per cent fall in our business this year. Short breaks are doing well but people are not committing themselves to booking summer holidays."



Whitewater rafting, one of the vigorous holiday activities that lure tourists to out-of-the-way places

Launch of the adventurer's guide

THE growing number of tourists seeking challenging trips in out-of-the-way places will be well served by the launch today of Adventure Holidays Worldwide, a guide to 18 activities and 50 countries where energetic breaks can be taken, Tony

The list ranges from dog-sledging in Greenland with Arctic Experience to whitewater rafting on the Zambezi with

Lunn Poly

carries on

discounting

By Harvey Elliott

DESPITE a growing short-age of peak summer holidays, Britain's biggest travel agency is to continue to offer an across-the-board 10 per cent

discount — the first time such big price cuts have continued

However, Lunn Poly,

which has 800 shops and a 27

per cent share of the market,

is aiming to maintain its lead

Peter Povey, marketing di-

rector, said tour operators had

drastically reduced the num-

ber of holidays on sale this

year and there was already a

shortage of the best hotels in the school holidays.
"Even 1 couldn't get the hotel of my choice in Florida

in July," he said. "We believe

these discounts will encour-

age people to book with us, whoever they used last year."

choice of a straight 10 per cent

discount on any holiday, plus

even bigger discounts on se-

lected brochures, free travel

insurance or a "book now pay

Tony Bennett, marketing

director of Going Places, said he would not be following

suit "We will however, watch

them closely to see how long

these discounts can continue."

later" instalment scheme.

over its high-street rivals.

after Easter.

Mountain Travel Sobek. It also reflects the increasing interest in less rugged adventures, which will be highlighted in a speech at today's launch by Derek Moore, the operations director of Ex-plore Worldwide, the largest UK adven-

ture holiday company. He has spotted a trend towards "soft adventures", such as trekking from hut to hut in northern Scandinavia and driving

and towards cultural adventures in countries such as Yemen.

James Ogilvie, the guide's author, defines an adventure holiday as "one which contains an element of personal challenge through controlled risk ... often in a wilderness or remote area". ● Adventure Holidays Worldwide (In Print.

Condoms in the mini-bar

By DAVID CHURCHILL

HOTELIERS are belatedly responding to guests' criti-cisms of the high prices and restricted contents of hotel mini-bars by introducing a wide range of products, including cigarettes, condoms

The Mayfair Inter-Continental hotel in central London this week revealed that since it had started to introduce a wider range of goods in its mini-bars, sales had risen by 35 per cent. Stephen Brandman, the hotel's resident manager, says: "What we are offering are the small things that people forget when travelling and that they usually have to go to a shop to buy."
Since introducing the changes last month, the 287room Mayfair has sold 48 disposable cameras, ten packs of playing cards and 159

packets of cigarettes. The latter are only available in the mini-bars in smoking rooms. The hotel has also introduced what it describes as the relief pack - although this is due to be renamed the Emer-gency Pack - containing aspirin, Alka-Seltzer, Beechams Powders, plasters, tampons and condoms. This is priced at

Eo and items are not sold

separately. More food items

such as crisps, shortbread and jellybeans, which are also selling well. The Mayfair is not alone in reviewing the contents of its mini-bars. The management of the new Grosvenor House

have also been introduced

Crown Club is presently considering what extras to include when its rooms open in the early summer. The Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly is also looking at what it offers in its mini-bars, although Giles Shepherd, the managing director, insists that "we don't want it looking like a village shop".

But not all hoteliers are interested in changing what has proved to be a lucrative money-spinner for them in the past. Profit margins can be between 300 and 400 per cent on some miniature bottles of drink. About 5 per cent of the room revenues come from the

Brown's Hotel and the Savoy both say they have no plans to change their traditional mini-bar contents, nor does the Thistle hotel chain which is London's largest with 28 hotels in the capital. But Thistle revealed that customer demand had led to extra condom machines being installed in some of its hotels.

Threat to airline loyalty schemes

By Harvey Elliott

FREQUENT-FLYER loyalty programmes, which enable many business travellers to take free holiday flights, could be phased out, a leading travel

academic said this week. As more airlines set up their own schemes, so the value of the programmes in attracting new business is diminished, says Allan Beaver, a lecturer at Surrey University who carried out an extensive survey of

frequent-flyer schemes. He says: "The FFP (frequent amme) pnenome non could collapse just as quickly as the trading stamps era passed in the UK."

There are now more than 120 million members of 80 FFPs around the world with many belonging to several schemes, he says in the new issue of the academic publication Tourism Economics.

In America, where frequentflyer programmes are particu-

larly popular, some flights are full for months ahead in the summer, particularly to resorts such as Hawaii.

"Only half of European business travellers have redeemed their awards," he says, "although 97 per cent state that they intend to at some time in the future." Even the most senior man-

agement in international airlines now admit that FFPs are likely to diminish in the future, with 94 per cent of mose surveyed airlines would gradually increase the emphasis on service "until a point is reached where FFPs become indistinguishable from airline clubs".

Up to 10 per cent of passengers are now travelling free, but as the world moves out of recession and load factors rise. the demand for the seats will exceed the ability of the airlines to supply the free seats.

PINKERTON'S EYE



A MONTHLY column supplied by the worldwide security and detection agency:

HIGH RISK

A BOMB has been ruled out as the cause of last Saturday's Delhi hotel collapse, but India is considered a highrisk area. Two groups, Harkat-ul-Momineen and the Khalistan Liberation Force, are determined to stop the May elections in Jammu and Kashmir. There have also been ambushes of military and police personnel in northeast India. In Pakistan Islamic fundamentalists last week US staff. Israel remains high-risk as Hamas reiterates its threat of suicide attacks. Hezbollah, the mainly Shia group, could carry out reprisals for last week's Israeli shelling of a Lebanese refugee camp. The end of the traditional Shia 40day mourning for those killed coincides with the May 29 Israeli elections, an event that may be targeted by other

terrorist groups. There has been a spate of killings in Manila, making the Philippines high-risk. The West African republic Togo is considered dangerous: sec-urity in Lome, the capital, is deteriorating and visitors are advised not to travel at night.

In Peru Shining Path guerrillas have murdered villagers, ambushed police and military patrols and assassinated a community leader.

In Colombia the President has issued an emergency decree allowing the imposition of curfews and military checkpoints in the light of wors-ening terrorist activity by the National Liberation Army.

In Guatemala military and security officials are accused of being involved in the current high level of kidnapping.

EXTREME RISK

SERIOUS unrest in Lebanon continues. In Sri Lanka a new army offensive in the north could result in the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam stepping up terrorist attacks. Ear-lier this year there was a suicide bomb in Colombo.

Algeria continues to be very dangerous and the Foreign Office issued a warning in early April not to travel there. Liberia is again tense after renewed fighting. Travellers may be in danger of harassment, injury or even death. ● Pinkerton, 01420 544024

> SATURDAY TRAVEL

Travel the world again in **Weekend** Edward Mamott in Papua New Guinea Tom Pocock on how to enjoy Venice Insider's Paris, by Kate Muir Hazei Leslie in Klivert country Jili Crawshaw's

travel tips

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Disneyland Paris announces its latest attraction. The price.

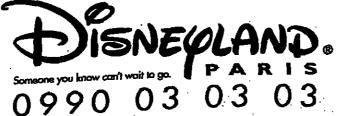
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Even the prices are an attraction in their own right; there are many special offers available this April, while during May and June, a family of four can enjoy three great days of fun and excitement for just £118 each.

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To book this very attractive offer, call us now on the number below.



FLORA LONDON MARATHON

Runners up to 4 hours, 58 minutes, 52 sec

The Times continues its ex clusive coverage of the 1996 Flora London Marathon with the names of competitors who finished inside 4 hours, 58 minutes and 52

seconds. The results are provided by Unisys, official suppliers of computers to the race. The names and times of the other finishers will be continued tomorrow.

Ackert 4:15:21: C Bernard 21: J Cashern 4:15:21: A Gent 22: D Ellis 4:15:22: A Gray 22: D Ellis 4:15:22: A Gray 23: N Lipczynski 4:15:24: A Gray 23: N Lipczynski 4:15:24: A Gray 25: R Scarratt 4:15:25: M 1eskoski 4:15:26: D Greaves 26: E Azevedo 4:15:26: P Gray 26: M Pardey 4:15:27: J Poerd 4:15:27: J Poerd 4:15:27: C Crega 27: J Kelly 4:15:27: G Condon 4:15:28: C Roberts 4:17:18: P Macaulay 29: M Morrissey 4:15:29: D Morriss

C Tye 4:15:38: P Allen 4:15:38: B
Abbs 4:15:38: P Bierman 4:15:38.

12.201 G Knipe 4:15:36: C Van
Zandvoori 4:15:38: M Holland
4:15:39: K Roberts 4:15:39: P
Goodfield 4:15:40: B Woodcock
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4:15:46: K Horan 4:15:46: I Collier
4:15:48: J Whitehouse 4:15:50: K
Sanderson 4:15:50: A Bowler
4:15:51: G Simpson 4:15:51: J
Martinez Zazo 4: J Saxis
4:15:48: J Whitehouse 4:15:51: J
Mines 4:15:53: R Stephens
4:15:54: D Armstrong 4:15:51: G
Sanderson 4:15:55: K Borup
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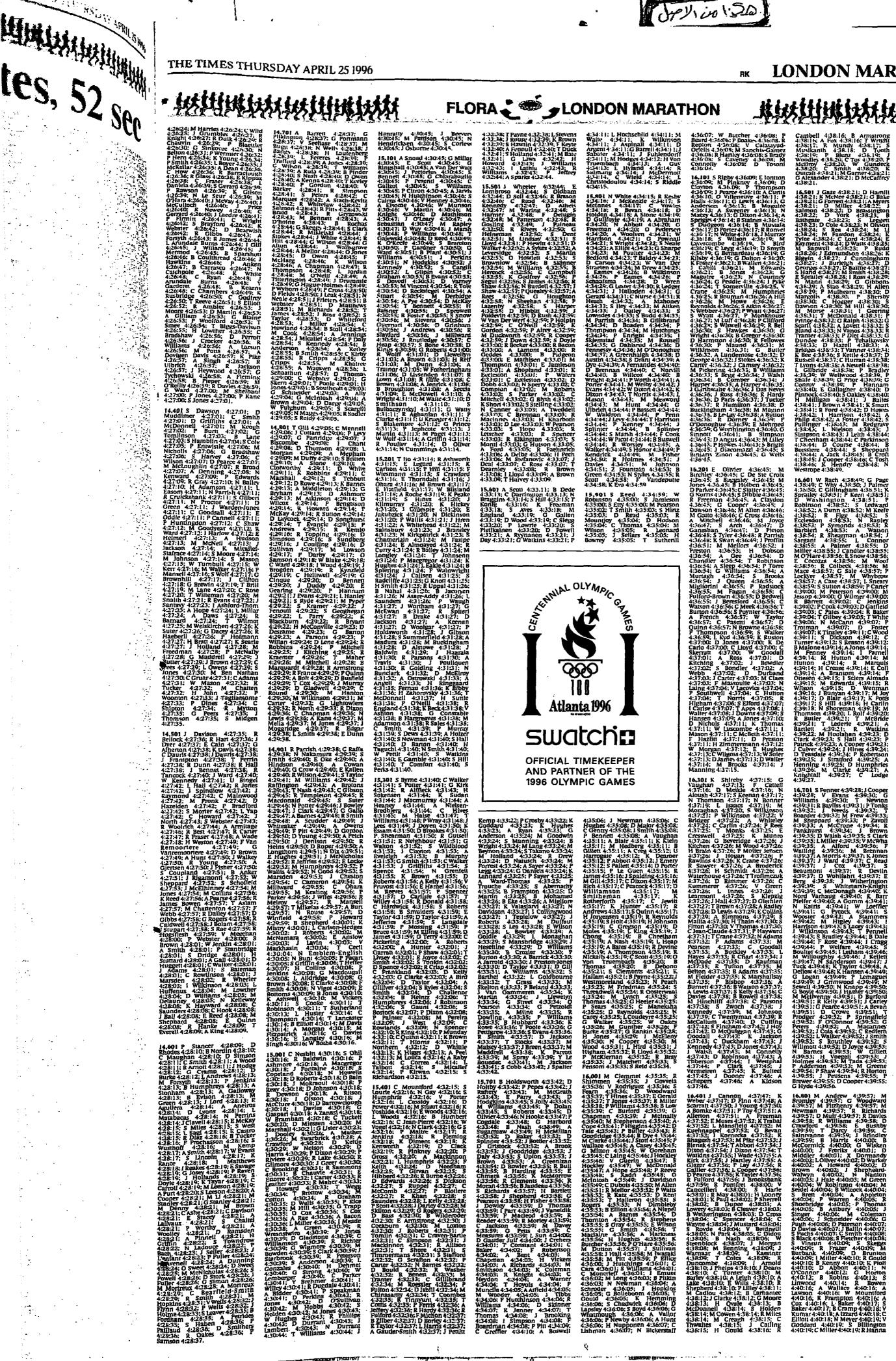
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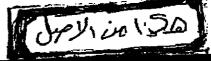
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In Pinter House

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Athlete resolves dispute with BAF to concentrate on Olympic Games

Jackson relents on threatened boycott

COLIN JACKSON'S feud with the British Athletic Federation (BAF) may have been more a marathon than a sprint, but it edged towards the linish line yesterday when he withdrew his threat to boycott some of Britain's top meetings this summer. Jackson, the 110 metres hurdles world record-holder, also made himself available 10 compete in the European Cup while doing a convincing impression of an athlete who believes his Olympic dream is about to be fulfilled.

THE TIMES THE ROLL AND

He was in ebullient mood, mainly because his winter work has taken him to a level of fitness as high, if not higher. than in any April past, but partly because no longer is he embroiled in a dispute. Malcolm Arnold, the BAF head coach and Jackson's personal trainer, whose loyalties were divided by the controversy, spoke of his "great joy" that the worst of the differences had been resolved.

"I was very anxious that the latter years of Colin's career did not end under a cloud," Arnold said. "I want to see him compete in this country and go on to win the Olympic title, which I think he will do. He is in very good shape."

Arnold may not have been with Jackson while the athlete spent most of the winter abroad, but he is impressed with his present physical and mental condition. What makes him so sure Jackson is on the verge of a towering season? "It is something you

FROM MELWEBB IN VALENCIA

THE CONTINUING anguish

of José Maria Olazábal drew

compassionate words from his

golfing soul brother, Seve-

riano Ballesteros, as he pre-

pared for the Turespaña

Masters that starts at El Saler

today. Ballesteros is not 100

per cent fit - he has a wrist

injury - but at least there are

reasonable hopes that he will

quickly be back to physical

fitness. The prognosis for

Olazábal is nowhere near as

Increasingly crippling ar-thritis in both feet has been

with Olazábal for nearly two

smell," Arnold said. A personal best 32.8sec for 300 metres in training and a clean lift in the gym of 140kg are strong

All trace of anger has left Jackson, except his animosity towards Peter Radford, the BAF executive chairman, who rebuked him last year alter Jackson had fled the AAA championships in mid-competition to race in Italy. Was there anything Radford could do to restore relations? "Hell, no," Jackson said. "Me and him are dead and buried."

Jackson, who won the world championship in 1993, was unable to defend it last year as a result of his split with the BAF. He was neither physically nor mentally ready to produce proof of fitness when BAF required it. He did, however, admit yesterday that he "could have done more to calm things down" by telling Arnold he was leaving for Italy instead of vanishing.

When Jackson, 29, appears

at the Welsh Games on May 25, which he was promoting in Cardiff yesterday, it will be his first race in Britain for ten months, his first since the stand-off began. He was always going to compete in Cardiff - 'Nuff' Respect, the management agency he runs with Linford Christie, is promoting the event - but the Bupa Games in Gateshead on June 30, which he has now agreed to compete in, was among those he was planning

It took a convincing perfor-

competitive golf for seven

months. He was due to have

played here, but he had to

withdraw a short time ago

when it became obvious that

he would be unable to with-

stand the rigours of playing 72

holes of golf around the beau-

tiful and testing El Saler

course, which has drawn sev-

en of the Ryder Cup team of

Ballesteros was full of sym-

pathy for his younger friend.

"It's very sad," he said, "We miss him on tour and it is such

a pity that he is not here. I am

not worried about his pros-

pects for the Ryder Cup, for

that is a long way away, but it

last year to its rolling links.

Ballesteros goes out in sympathy

Jackson, back on British soil after a winter overseas, flies the flag for the Welsh Games at Cardiff yesterday

mance from Peter Hier, the BAF's assistant promotions director, to clinch Jackson's change of heart. Hier, who is recovering in hospital from a heart attack last week, went to Australia, where Jackson was racing and training, to put

while to get back to normal."

Ballesteros knows what he

is talking about. He took a

five-month sabbatical from

the game after the Ryder Cup

match last autumn and it was

not until he played all four

rounds in the recent Masters

that he showed a semblance of

form; even at Augusta he was

second to last of those who

played four rounds. This is

only his third appearance of

the season on the PGA Euro-

pean Tour, having missed the cut in Dubai and finished 67th

The pain that is afflicting him now is the result of

in Morocco.

BAF's case. "He did a good job." Jackson said. "Otherwise, I don't think I would have been running."

Jackson was runner-up in the 1988 Olympic Games and. as favourite to win, finished seventh in 1992, blaming inju-

times heavier than usual in his hotel room to help with his

rhythm. He shrugged off the injury yesterday. "It is just a small inflammation, I think,"

he said. "I have been swinging

the club for a long time now

and I think I just overdid it a

ready though it was, was to

put the matter, or, at least, the

wrist on ice. He was sched-

uled to pay a visit to the tour

physiotherapy unit and was

resigned to another evening

with a frozen hand. "It's

nothing serious," he said light-

ly. Would that his younger

compatriot could be so

Rc5

gxh4

Roca6+

PUBLIC N

His remedy, rough and

ry. He was unbeaten in 1994 and his downfall last year, he said, had been in part due to others taking his success for granted. "People around me were getting complacent about my performances," he said. That Jackson is in high spirits was evident when he was asked whether victory in Atlanta would confirm him as the greatest sprint hurdler in history. "That's not for me to

say, that's for you guys to say." he replied. But I would like

Hall plans triumphant **Curtis Cup swansong**

JULIE HALL the British champion and one of the best amateur golfers of her generation, will retire from championship golf on Saturday June 22, the day the Curtis Cup finishes at Killarney (Patricia Davies writes).

"I'm now on the other side of the fence," Hall, who is 29 and started her new job as the Ladies' Golf Union's tournament secretary this week, said. "When do you stop? I've done it for ten years and I thought I might as well go out at the top."

It will be Hall's fifth consecappearance in the bier nial match pitting Great Britain and Ireland against the United States. She was on the winning teams of 1988 and 1992 and, two years ago

played in the match in Chattanooga that was halved. Lisa Educate (formerly Walton). Mhairi McKay and Janice Moodie were also on that team and Hall feels that experience could give the home side an edge.

Those making their debuts are Lisa Dermott, the Welsh champion. Alison Rose, a Scotland international and a member of the Commonwealth team last year, and the England internationals, Karen Stupples and Elaine Ratcliffe.

TEAM; J. Dermott (Royal Liverpoor Ladies"). L Educate (Calcot Paris, J Hall (Felhatome Fern). M McKey (Tumbery). J Moodie (Windyhill), E Ratcliffe (Sandway), A Rose (Saring), K Stupples (Royal Conque Poris) Reserves (in order; E R Power (Kalenny), F Brown (Heswall), E Duggleby (Malton & Norton), R Hudson (Wheatley) Capitain: I Bullet (Em Paris).

No surprise as McRae names his Saints for Wembley

By Christopher Irvine

SHAUN McRAE was a member of Brian Smith's Sydney schoolboys team 20 years ago, so the St Helens coach is familiar with his Bradford counterpart's habit of pulling the wool over opponents' eyes. Yesterday, therefore. McRae accused his fellow Australian of "living in Disneyland" if he expected him to take seriously the Bradford starting line-up announced for the rugby League Silk Cut Challenge Cup final on Saturday.

Smith included Jon Hamer in Bradford's nominated XIII for Wembley, announced on Tuesday, even though the prop forward has not figured in the first team since January. "I don't take any notice of it. To suggest that Hamer will play is ridiculous," McRae said. "Has Brian Smith ever picked a side a few days before a game and that side has actually taken the field?"

Smith was undaunted. "We have named our team. Like any coach, I retain the right that, if I feel on the day it is necessary to make a change, I'll certainly do it. We'll just wait and see," he said.

What Australians know as ducks and drakes - the game whereby a team is named and the other goes along with it - was not indulged in by McRae, who sprang no surprises in retaining Danny Arnold on the right wing and restoring Anthony Sullivan after injury to the left flank, which means Alan Hunte must settle for a substitute's place at best.
Although St Helens are

unbeaten in the Super League going into Wembley, McRae was unhappy with the manner of the last two wins scraped against Bradford and Halifax. There are some players in the starting line-up who can consider themselves extremely lucky. They have been spoken to about their recent performances," he said.

McRae singled out Andy Leathern, 19, for praise. The young prop has established himself in the first team this season due to a prodigious work-rate. "We have the benefit now of an individual [video] taping system via computer and I can't find the last time that Andy made a mista

game," McRae said.
STHELENS: SPRECON, DArnold, SGlobi
P Newbore, A Subver, K Hammond, i
Goulding, A Petellin, K Curringhem,
Leathem, C Joyrd, S Booth, A Northey
Substitutes (from): A Hurtle, T Marryn,
Mathematical Control

IN BRIEF

Muster has easy start to defence of title

THOMAS MUSTER enjoyed an easy start to the defence of his Monte Carlo Open tennis title yesterday, defeating Tomas Carbonell, of Spain, the winner of the recent Casabianca clay-court tournament, 7-5, 6-4 in only 80 minutes.

Goran Ivanisevic and Yevgeny Kafelnikov, seeded five and six respectively, suf-fered surprise first-round defeats in straight sets. Ivanisevic was beaten 6-2, 6-2 by Magnus Gustafsson, of Sweden, while Kafelnikov complained of feeling unwell after his 6-4, 6-3 defeat by Cedric Pioline. of France.

European Storm

Ice hockey: Manchester Storm will be Britain's representatives in a new European league that will eventually replace the European Cup. Manchester will be one of 20 teams from 12 countries that will play in five groups, the group winners and three best runners-up qualifying for the

Boardman boost

Cycling: Chris Boardman, an Olympic gold medal-winner in 1992, has been granted automatic selection, along with the defending champion, Graeme Obree, for the world pursuit championship in Manchester this summer. The international cycling union decided that, as host nation, Britain would be entitled to field a second rider without having to qualify via the World Cup.

Britain relegated

Tennis: Britain were relegated from group one of the Europe-Africa zone of the Fed Cup at La Manga, Spain, yesterday, despite beating Slovenia 2-1 in their last pool match. Britain's fate was when Belorussia gained a winning 2-0 lead over Russia.

Sherry invitation

Golf: Gordon Sherry, who makes his professional debut in the Italian Open next week. has been allocated a place in the Volvo PGA championship at Wentworth next month. Sherry, 22, ended his amateur career at the Masters a fortnight ago, where he missed

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent Love all 4365 ₹32 +A87632 465 **VAJ87** ♦ K J 10 4 **409** _ . S_ **◆KQ987 ♠AKQ32** VKQ10964 +5 44 1 NT Pass 2 D 4 H

plained by the fact that East-West were playing the Precision Club. A feature of Strong Club systems is that weakish hands with clubs are awkward to bid. Many Precision pairs play that an open-ing bid of One Diamond is balanced, or has either minor as the principal suit. That explains why East responded INT - he couldn't afford to raise diamonds in case West was short, and he couldn't bid clubs as his methods required him to have a stronger hand to bid at the two level. South bid Two Diamonds over INT. thinking that would show both majors. North obtusely interpreted it as diamonds, and to avoid any further misunderstandings South jumped to Four Hearts.

How should declarer play after two rounds of clubs? He counts his tricks - five in spades, at least four in hearts and one in diamonds. But if he continues with the king of hearts. West ducks, wins the

The bizarre auction is ex- second round and another club. Now declarer is down to the same number of trumps as West, and as West has a fifth club he can force out declarer's last trump when he wins the jack of hearts. That leaves West with a total of three trump tricks.

The solution is to play the ten of hearts at trick three. If West wins, dummy can ruff a club continuation. And if West plays low, declarer can continue with the king of hearts, and when he ruffs the next club he plays off the queen of hearts and just runs spades.

Two British teams occupy a medal position. The juniors are third and the mixed team lead their category with an impressive score.

STANDINGS. Open: equal 1. Fin-land, Italy 91; 3, France 86; 10, GB 71. Women: 1, Austria 116; 2, Beigkurn 99; 3, France 83; 6, GB 70. Jumbor: 1, Italy 105; 2, Denmark 93; equal 3, GB, Israel 80. Mixed: 1, GB 85; 2, Fortugal 69. ☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

LEENE on CHESS

19 Bd3

20 Ra1

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kramnik leads

Vladimir Kramnik, the young Russian grandmaster, has maintained his grip on the lead after 20 games of the blindfold/rapid chess tournament in Monte Carlo. Scores after 20 rounds are as follows: Kramnik 14.5. Anand 13, Ivanchuk 1212 and Karnsky 92. Other notable contenders further down the field in this \$100,000 tournament include Anatoly Karpov, Judith Polgar and Alexei Shirov.

In the following game, a crucial victory with Black which was instrumental in maintaining Kramnik's lead, the Russian outplays the former world championship challenger in a simplified position without queens.

White: Viswanathan Anand Black: Vladimir Kramnik Melody Amber, Monaco, Sicilian Defence

2 N/3 Nob cad4 NfB 66

3 d4 4 Nxd4 6 Bg5 7 Od2 8 0-0-0 hδ 9 Be3 Ba7 10 .13 Nxd4 Bxd4 12 Kb1 Bxd6 13 Bxf6 14 Oxd8 Oxd8 15 Pxd6 Ke7 16 Rd1 Bxc3 17 bxc3 18 Kb2

Bd7 21 Rhb1 22 Bit Rbc8 fixc2 24 cxb5 25 Ka3 axb5 26 Pxb5 Bxa2 27 28 ada K#6 Rt2 Kg7

goch4

Rb6 38 Ra6

Diagram of final position

Internet access

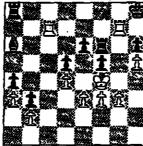
Those wishing to follow all the games of the Melody Amber blindfold/rapid play tournament in Monaco via the world wide web should access the following website:

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING NOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to move. This position is from the game Alekhine -Yates, London 1922. Doubled rooks on the seventh rank can be an enormously powerful weapon. Here Alekhine wins quickly despite being a piece in arrears. Can you see how? Solution, page 46



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LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES 0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827

WORD-WATCHING. By Philip Howard

WHANGDOODLE

a. A cane b. A bird c A thingummyjig

MENDACILOQUENT

a. Eloquent b. Seeding by spores c. Untruthful

CICURATE a. A Church of Ireland curate b. Circumcised c. To tame

FULSOME

a. Excessive b. Enthusiastic c. More than half Answers on page 46

Watford live to fight again

Swindon provide McMahon with his finest moment

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

STEVE McMAHON won just about everything football has to offer during his playing days with Everton and Liverpool, and yet beating Chesterfield 3-1 on Tuesday night was, he claimed, his finest moment. Better than winning the FA Cup, better than winning the league, better than winning the double. Instead of Antield or Wembley in early May, read Saltergate, April 23, 1996. The pinnacle of a successful

tr may sound, at best, improbable, but McMahon, now the manager of Swindon Town, meant it. Beating Chesterfield wrapped up the Endsleigh Insurance League second division championship that had been studiously packaged and parcelled during the course of a season in which Swindon — McMahon's Swindon — had been the outstanding team in their division. Relegated less than 12 months

earlier, they had bounced back in style, securing promotion at Blackpool on Saturday before putting the icing on the cake in

"This is easily the best thing I have ever experienced as a player or a manager," McMahon said yesterday. "It's been three days of sheer bliss. Not many teams win promotion and the championship. We got what we deserved. This is a very special moment and we are certainly going to enjoy it."
"Enjoying it" began as soon

as the final whistle had blown at Saltergate, goals from Cowe, Thorne and Allison interrupting Chesterfield's path into the play-offs, despite Hewitt's effort on the halfhour. Who goes up automatically with Swindon has yet to be decided, with Oxford United closing on Blackpool, who are second, thanks to a 6-0 drubbing of Shewsbury Town. Massey, Rush. Beauchamp

Sugar turns sour over 'irresponsible' clubs

By Our Sports Staff

ALAN SUGAR has a reputation for being something of a maverick among the men who control football's leading clubs. Thus it was yesterday that the Tottenham Hotspur chairman, at the same time as announcing a rights issue scheme to raise £10.9 million Tottenham in that most of our to build a new north stand at superstar players are covered White Hart Lane, criticised by long-term contracts. what he called the "irresponsible" spending of his FA Carling Premiership rivals.

Sugar refuses to follow clubs who pay hugely inflated fees or wages for players, and believes that the domestic transfer market has to change as a consequence of the Bosman ruling. To that end, Tottenham have wiped almost £7 million off the transfer value of their players.

At present, normal transfers within Britain command a fee

whether the player is on or out of contract and the trend towards foreign players is expected to continue. "It is our view, the view of our auditors and of anybody else with half a brain that the transfer system as we know it is on its last legs," Sugar said. "Fortunately, we are protected at

Spending in some places pre-Bosman was, to say the least, irresponsible. The next bit of logic is that a manager will say to his chairman, 'I've got the opportunity of employing Carlos Kickaball from Madrid and there is no transfer fee. But I'm going to pay him £1.5 million a year.' The new wave of free transfers could cause a new level of salary construction."

Rights issue, page 27

and Murphy scored one apiece, Moody two. Notts County are also play-off bound, but their 2-1 defeat of Brighton was notable more for the fact that it condemned their visitors to relegation.

The first division, however, was hardly going to allow one of its junior partners to steal the limelight completely. Since August last year, it has constantly surprised and Tuesday night was no exception. Had Watford lost at home to Grimsby Town, they would have been relegated. They won 6-3 and the great escape. masterminded by Graham Taylor and the sorcerer's apprentice, Luther Blissett,

may be on. There were two hat-tricks, one from Ramage, the other from Connolly, with fruitless replies from Groves, Livingstone and Walker. Luton Town look doomed, however. They lost I-0 at Port Vale and saw Graeme Tomlinson, making his debut on loan from Manchester United, carried

off with a broken leg. England Under-21s took on Croatia Under-21s with a severely depleted team and therefore their 1-0 defeat was not too disappointing. Vucko scored the only goal; Rufus, of Charlton Athletic, came closest to replying, hitting the bar with a header.

Only the Aberdeen striker. Scott Booth, appeared to emerge with any credit from Scotland B's embarrassing 3-0 defeat by Denmark B in Nykobing Falster.

Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, welcomed the fact that Booth, on as a second-half substitute, "looked to be running freely" after a long spell struggling to overcome a groin injury — signalling, perhaps, that a place awaits in the squad for the European championship finals - but he was less than impressed with some other performances. Larsen, with two goals, and Andersen ensured the Scots ended the night empty-



Perkins flounders in Olympic tide

By CRAIG LORD

AUSTRALIAN swimming was in a state of shock yesterday after the failure of Kieren Perkins to make the Olympic team for the 400 metres freestyle, the event in which he is world champion and world record-holder. His demise represented the low-water mark in three days of trials - and many tribulations - at the pool that will be used for the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

Perkins, 22, who failed to make the final of the 200 metres freestyle on Sunday, yesterday qualified for the final of the 400 metres in last place. In the final, he struggled to stay in contention with the leaders early on before staging a mild recovery that proved too little too late.

Perkins, known as the Ironman of the Pool and rated as the leading distance freestyler in the world, finished third behind Daniel Kowalski (3min 50.60sec) and Malcolm Allen (3:51,60), his time of 3:52.52 being almost nine seconds slower

than his world record. Paul Palmer, of Helen Denman, whose parents hail from Lincoln, won the British trials last month

Appearing calm and composed at the post-race press conference, and even cracking jokes, Perkins proferred no other explanation for his form than a change of lifestyle. He said 1995 had been a quiet year in the pool, with no major world event, he had recently moved in with his girlfriend and his job as a television reporter had taken up more of his time in the past year.

John Carew, his coach, said that Perkins's stroke rhythm was "all to pot". He hoped improvements could be made before trials for Perkins's other event, the 1,500 metres, in which he is Olympic champion and leads the world by a large

margin, are held on Saturday.

To add insult to injured Australian pride, Samantha Riley, the world champion at 100 and 200 metres breaststroke. was beaten for the second time in a week. Having already lost the 100 metres to Britain, Riley swarn six seconds outside her best in the 200 metres and was beaten by Nadine Neumann. Second place in each event was, however, enough to secure her qualification for Atlanta.

Neumann, 20, broke her neck when diving into a pool six weeks before the Olympic trials of 1992, and spent two years out of the sport. The injury to her vertebrae was not detected until three days after the accident, when she complained that her neck hurt when she swallowed.

Riley, 23, tested positive for a stimulant contained in a prescription headache pill given to her by Scott Volkers, her coach. last December. She was let off with a warning, while Volkers is appealing against a two-year suspension from international coaching. She said that had not disturbed her training; her poor form was something of a mystery to her. One commentator at the trials said: "Everyone is going round in shock at the results."

All Blacks
lock is
cleared of
assault
y judge

IAN JONES, the All Blacks lock, was acquitted yesterday of an assault during a provincial match after the first court case of its kind in New Zealand. The case against Jones, 29, who has played nearly 200 first-class games without any slur on his selfdiscipline, was said to be "riddled with contradictions".

It arose after a game last season between North Harbour, Jones's team, and Counties, whose flanker, Junior Paramore, left the field with an eye injury and later complained of an assault. Witnesses alleged that they saw Jones using his foot in a kicking motion but there was also evidence that the injury

occurred in a heavy tackle.

Judge Patrick Treston told the Pukekohe District Court that most of the evidence was "irreconcilable" and accepted Jones's explanation that the eye injury was caused when the player's elbow came in

contact with Paramore's face. The Pan Pacific tournament, involving eight countries and due to begin this weekend, has been postponed until next year. The delay has been caused by the failure of the international underwriters to meet their commitment: however, the likes of Japan, Hong Kong, the United States and Canada hope that some of this year's fixtures can be played.

Simon Mason, the Ireland full back, will miss Orrell's final league game of the season, against Bristol on Saturday. Mason has an ankle injury and his place goes to Steve Taberner in what will be Bristol's penultimate game; success at Orrell and at West Hartlepool on May 5 could steer them to sixth place in the first division after their flirtation with relegation.

Bristol welcome back Si mon Shaw, the England A lock, who plays for their second XV against Orrell after a leg injury which threatened his playing career. Shaw suf-fered a double dislocation of the ankle, a fractured fibia and extensive ligament damage playing for Bristol against Transvaal in November.

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Scottish players benefit from trust

By MARK SOUSTER

TONY STANGER and James Craig are at opposite ends of their rugby careers. Stanger, who will be 28 next month, is a veteran of 38 internationals, while Craig, the youngest son of the former Celtic and Scot-land football international, Jim Craig, is established at under-19 level. The two do, however, have something in common; both are at college, Stanger having given up his job last year to become a mature student reading sports science, while Craig is studying leisure management; yesrecipients of bursaries worth up to £3,000 a year from the joined Melrose. The aim is to up to £3,000 a year from the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU). The grants are part of an

initiative designed to assist players to balance the financial demands of further education and the development of their professional and sporting careers, and ultimately to keep them in Scotland. The money has been made available through the SRU's educational trust, set up as an offshoot of the union's careers

provide long-term careers and not stop-gap sinecures. As with most things in

Scotland, the scheme is the brainchild of Jim Telfer, the SRU's director of rugby, who, as a former headmaster, is aware of the value of education and the importance of parallel careers to rugby, at least in the short term. The trust, which it is hoped will be granted charitable status. wants to raise £50,000 initially to meet expected demand from up to a dozen players over the next three years, while the SRU has contributed another

of the money being used to pay for personal tuition for players whose courses are interrupted by the demands of rugby.

The need for financial support and career counselling, for instance in liaising with universities in rescheduling exams which clash with tours. emerged from questionnaires completed by players in various national squads last year. ☐ Peter Wright, the Scotland prop, confirmed yesterday that he will be joining Melrose, the league champions. next season. He is believed to have signed a three-year contract worth £90,000.

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FOR THE RECORD

opportunities for players working party, itself a fledgeling body which has already helped to find a job for Derek Stark, the former Scotterday they were the first Hereford 0 Darlington 1; Mansfield 2 Torquay 0; Sounthorpe 2 Doncaster 2. VAUD-HALL CONFERENCE: Altrincham 1 Stalybridge 0; Runcorm 3 Northwich 4; Weiling 1 Kettering 0. LIEFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP-BASEBALL. AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesote 8 Boston 6; Chicago 6 Texas 5; Caldand 9 Milwaukee 6; Cleveland 9 Baltimore 8; Kansas City 5 Slatybridge C; Runcom 3 Northwich 4; Welfing 1 Kettering 0.

UEFA UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP-Oualitying game, second leg: England 3 Scotland 0 (8-0 agg).

ICIS LEAGUE Premier division: Ayesbury 1 Molesey 1; Boreham Wood 4 Hendon 0; Hayes 2 Hendow 1; Bishop's Stortford 3 Chertsey 1; Yeading 3 Walton and Hersham 0. First division: Berkhamated 1 Lubondge 3: Oxford Cty 1 Staines 1; Wenthley 0 Leyton Pennant 1. Second division: Challont St Peter 3 Hungerford 0; Hernel Hernpstead 1 Eghrem 0; Lastrehaed 1 Witham 0; Saftron Walden 1 Carwey Island 4; Whenhoe 0 Hernpton 2. Third division: Aveley 0 Horsham 2; Clapton 2 Harefield 1, Postponad: Epsoom and Ewell v Kingsbury. UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Aveley 0 Horsham 2; Clapton 2 Harefield 1, Postponad: Epsoom and Ewel v Kingsbury. UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Burlon 1 Batton 0 Barrow 0; Friotley 2 Spernymor 3. First division: Congleton 1 Fleetwood 0; Gretne 0 Great Harwood 2; Radciffe 1 Eastwood Tomat 1; Writiey Bay 2 Lincoln United 0.

SEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burlon 1 Granthem 0; Hindidey Town 2 Softwal 3; Leiceater United 1 R C Warwick 1; Sation Coldisid 1 Dudley Town 1: Rothwell 2 Nuneation 0; Tarmworth 6 Busidngham Town 0. Southern division: Chadenford 2 Forest Green 1; Clevedin 4 Ashtrod 2; Fisher 93 0 Stimpbourne 2.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Caersws 1 Convey 3; Newtown 3 Briton Ferry 0. League Cup: Semi-finads, second legs: Barry 2 Edow Viele 2 (Ebbw Valle with on away goals); Connah's Cupy 2 Cearswston 2 Sunderland 3.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Covertry 5 Sunderland 3.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Submerted 2 Browers 4.

HELLENGE LEAGUE: Premier division: Submerted 2 Endalagif 0. New York 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia 6 Pitts-burgh 2, Los Angeles 3 Allenta 2 San Diego 7 Florida 2: Colorado 4 Chicago 3; Houston 9 San Francisco 4; Montreat 12 St Louis 11; New York 8 Cincinnati 8 (in 10inns). CRICKET SECOND XI C-HAMPIONSHIP: Second day of three: Caraterbury: Lancastine 431-6 dec (P C McKeown 175, N T Wood 140) and 48-6; Kert 325-8 dec (J H Bakdock 80, S Willis 80, E J Standford 52) First day of three: Knowle and Dourlidge: Dartyshire 900-3 dec (T J G O'Gorman 150 not out, M R May 92) and 34-0 dec. Warwickshire 47-0 dec and 72 (P Aldred 6-17) Derbyshire won by 215 rurs. Werwickshire ipi, Derbyshire 20pts. ATLANTA: Women's international tour-nament: United States 1 Great Britain 3; Great Britain 1 Spain 0. SCHOOLS MATCH: Colston's 52; Clifton FOOTBALL VIENNA: World champlonship: Pool A United States 4 Germany 2: Ceneda 4 Austria 0; Germany 5 Canada 1. Pool B Italy 4 Norway 0; Czech Rep 4 Finland 2. International match CZECH REP (0) 2 IRIELAND Frydek 61 8,118 (al Entsicheho Stadium, Przeze) pried 75 Newbodge 5: SUPER 12 TOURNAMENT: Transvaal 55 Cantarbury 23 (in Johannesburg). SCHOOLS MATCH: Stropshire senior final; Adams GS 53 New College, Tellord 0 UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: England 0
Croatia 1. 3 INTERNATIONAL: Denmark 3 Scotland U. ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Flist

2 Sheboune 1.
FAI HARP LAGER CUP. Semi-finet Second replays: Schemians 1 Patick's Ath 2.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Dunston Federa-

tion 0 Tow Law 0.
GREAT MRLS LEAGUE: Premier division
Bristol Manor Farm 0 Bridgoot 2; Peution
Caine 1

ENDSLEIGH INSTRANCE LEAGUE First division: Part Vala 1 Lution C; Watlord 6 Grunsby 3. Second division: Burnley 0 Bristot Flowers 1: Cartisle 2 York C Chesterfield 1 Swindon 3: Notis County 2 Brighton 1; Oxford Utd 6 Shrewsbury C; Reitherham 2 Stockport 0; Walsalt 3 Hull 0 Third division: Chester 1 Northampton 0; VISION: FOR United 2 Great Watering 3.
Stanshold 2 Bowers 4.
HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division:
Swindon Supermarine 2 Endeligh 0.
BANK'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier
division: Uchfield 1 Walsall Wood FC 2;
Twdale FC 3 Cradley 0.
BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Cork
2 Shebourne 1. THE * TIMES

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SPORTS SERVICE

Newmarket 2 Harwich and Parkeston 2; Watton 1 Fakerham 2; Wisbech 5 Comard 1; Wrothern 1 Great Yermouth 0 NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Fiston 2 Burecough 0; Kidagnove 2 Cifferoe 0 2 Ciffrens ()
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE:
Premier division: Amold 1 Brigg 2:
Hucknall 1 Ashfield 1; Liversedge 2
Thackley 3; Melity MW 0 Armshorpe

Welfare 2
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Chile 3 Australia 0 (at Antologaste).
UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: Yugoslavia 1 Macsocoila 3.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier Lesgue under-19 Trophy: Final: Essex 1 Northumberland 1 (ast). Trophy shared Fulf Plan Trophy: Final, first leg: Bury 1 Walsall 0. HOCKEY

ICE HOCKEY

RUGBY UNION HEINEKEN LEAGUE First division: Porty-

TENNIS LA MANGA: Fed Cup: Europe-Africa zone: Group one: Pool A: Gross Britain 2 Slovenia 1 (Great Britain names first: S smith lost to B Mulei 6-3, 6-4; C Wood bit Krizan 7-5, 6-2; Smith and Wood bit Krizan and T Jazerrik 6-1, 7-5; Belorussia 2 Russia 1.

FINAL TABLE

MONTE CARLO: Men's tournement: First round: A Agests (US) bit J Stermenng (401) 8-2, 6-3; C Moya (So) bit O camporese (I) 2-5, 6-3, 6-2; J Sénchez (So) bit P Haantus (Holl) 8-2, 6-3; T Carbonel (So) bit F Domulf (Bell 0-5, 6-3, 6-1; M Rios (Chile) bit F Claret (So) 8-4, 5-7, 6-4; Second round: T Muster (So) 8-4, 5-7, 6-4; C Proline (Fi) bit T Castonel (Sp) 7-5, 6-4; C Proline (Fi) bit T

Katelnikov (Russ) 6-4, 6-3: S Schreihen (Holl) bt 7 Engyest (Swe) 3-8, 6-3, 6-3; F Sentror (Fr) bt A Bostoch (Fr) 7-6, 1-6, 7-6; M Gustafsson (Swe) bt G Nearnseytz (Cro) 6-2, 6-2; A Mectvedev (Utr) bt M Prilipoussis (Aus) 6-0, 6-2; A Cotal (Sp.) bt M Prilipoussis (Aus) 6-0, 6-2; A Cotal (Sp.) bt M Prilipoussis (Aus) 6-0, 6-2; A Cotal (Sp.) bt M Prilipoussis (Dr.) 6-1, 6-4; F Mentritis (Sp.) bt S Bruguera (Sp.) 7-5, 6-2, Becker (Germ) bt D filk (C2) 6-4, 4-6, 6-3

SEOUL: Men's tournement: Second round: B Beck (Zm) w/o S Lareau (Car) str. (G Russedski (GB) bt J Stark (US) 1-6, 7-6, 6-3; S Matsuoles (Lapen) bt A Readulescu (Ger) 6-4, 6-1; T Henman (GB) bt T Johansson (Swe) 6-3, 7-5; J Krossisk (Sinvakia) bt J Flanzanbrink (Ger) 6-2, 8-3; M Dammi (C2) bt J Gazabo (US) 6-3, 8-0; O Ogorndov (Uzo) bt K Carlsen (Den) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3

EDNNBURGH: Spring schaffile tournement (GB unless stated): Women: Pirst round: K Kamer (Car) bt N Beal (Aus) 6-3, 6-4; R Mewdisky (Aus) bt E Lebeacond (Fr) 6-4, 6-2; M Marinne (Fluss) bt M Vosseberg (Holl) 6-3, 6-0; K Belefova (C2) bt T Parkor (Yug) 6-1, 6-1; J Pulin bt T King (NZ) 6-2, 6-3; J Ward bt J Chouchury 8-3, 8-2 V Queses bt N Payne 6-3, 6-2; K Belefova (C2) bt T Pulin 6-2, 8-4.

POOLS DIVIDENDS LTTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts 23,241.85, 22 £58.05, 22 £5.85, 21 £1.85 Four draws £3.80. Ten homes £2,102.85. Five aways £58 15.

VERNONS: Trebis chance: 24pts E788.30.
23 527.95, 22 53.05. Ten horner 532.40 (paid on nine correct) Pive awaye void (stakes may be used in payment of clients' next entires).

ZETTERS: Trable chance: 24pts £221.65, 23 £2.55, 22 £0.36 (three dividends only). Top 10 points poot ino max 23pts witners!: 22pts £156.45, 21 £35.85, Easy sh £32.00 Four draws £3.00 Four draws £3.00 Four draws £3.00 Light homes £18.40 Lucky numbers 32 £9.38 £36.12.





neffit from trust

*Cheltenham drops early fixtures to ease toll on course

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

THE Cheltenham executive ground - you could almost has abandoned two fixtures in say abusing it — to get it ready October amid concern that an that early." Arkwright said.
The hazards of watering early start to the season is taking a heavy toll on the racecourses in the autumn racing surface. The developwere graphically illustrated at ment comes just six days after Cheltenham last year. A wet a Jockey Club report into the winter, coupled with the extenequine casualties at the March sive watering policy in Octo-ber, forced the executive to festival exonerated the state of the track from any blame. change the Gold Cup course at A group of trainers, headed the eleventh hour. by David Nicholson, criticised

the poor covering of grass at

the start of the Festival. But,

according to the report, they

stopped short of suggesting it

had contributed to a record ten

the course at Cheltenham,

maintained yesterday that the

decision to reallocate the fix-

tures was unrelated to the

fatalities. It is not an issue

because the report absolved

the ground from any blame.

he said. However, he accepted

that the early October mect-

ings had compromised the

have to put serious water on

the course up to six weeks in

advance," he said. "This is

detrimental to good turf hus-

bandry. Our decision is

geared towards having the

course in the best shape pos-

sible for the important

Cheltenham has three

courses but significant strips

of the Park course, which is

used in early October, are

common to the Old and New

courses, which are used at the

Festival. "Year after year, one

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[March] part of the season."

"To race in early October we

quality of the surface.

Philip Arkwright, clerk of

fatalities last month.

Runners were ushered around the second-last fence because the going was deemed unlit. The last two fences of the Gold Cup form part of the Park course, which was heaviwatered the previous Octo-

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MELT THE CLOUDS (3.40 Beverley)

Next best: Mybotye (3.10 Beverley)

ber," Arkwright recalled, "The bad ground was directly attributable to the autumn watering policy."

Conditions before this year's Festival could not have made a greater contrast. The lack of winter rain left the subsoil dry. which, according to the report, meant that "hurdles were stiff until they had been jumped once and may have contribut-

ed to heavier falls." For all Cheltenham's efforts to divorce the high equine casualties from yesterday's announcement, its dropping of two early fixtures amounted to realises that one is forcing the tacit recognition that the

ground has not been at its best for the Festival. Nothing should be allowed to compromise this showcase event. In that respect, the move is a positive development - albeit one that should have been made after the previous year's

controversy. Controversy also ruled at the Jockey Club disciplinary committee's inquiry into events at Ludlow on April 3. Having dolled off a fence when Lawrence Squire lay injured on the landing side. groundsmen started dismantling the warning signs directing riders around the obstacle after Squire was safely loaded into an ambulance.

But they failed to complete the job before the field anproached it on the second circuit. In the confusion, West Quay jumped the fence en route to second place but the other runners bypassed it. The result was allowed to stand yesterday even though the committee ruled that the fence should not have been jumped.

Given the committee's decision, West Quay should have been disqualified from second. That may seem harsh but such measures would go a long way towards avoiding a similar shambles in the future. It was golden opportunity for the Jockey Club to underline that the employment of incompetent groundstaff by race-courses is inexcusable. With that in mind, it was lenient in the extreme that both the Ludlow executive and its clerk of the course. Bob Davies.

Rural charm of races before graces

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AT PUNCHESTOWN

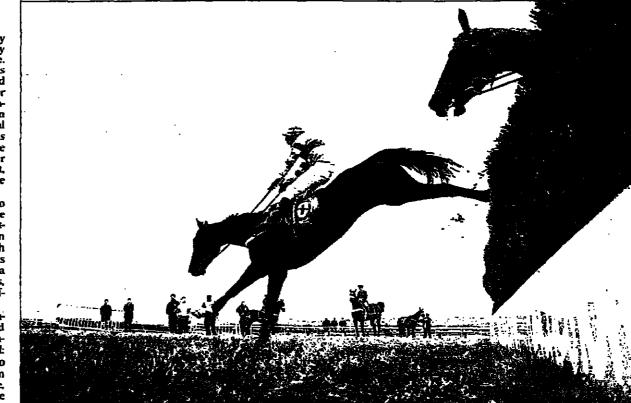
THEY called it Ladies' Day at Punchestown yesterday but nobody seemed to notice. There were a few showy hats amid the record 18,000 crowd and a quorum was raised for the Best Dressed Lady competition. But any comparison with Ascot and the social season ended there. This is an egalitarian event, where people come to watch rather than to be seen. Proper sport, in fact, and the Irish are rightly proud of it.

Sean Connery was here. So too was Ronnie Wood of the Rolling Stones. Yet they attracted no more attention than the unshaven man with a stick who habitually stands near the parade ring with a handful of assorted ballpens, calling "boiros" as a halfhearted sales pitch.

A delegation from Cheltenham attended yesterday and Edward Gillespie, the managing director, remarked: "We spent 15 years trying to make Cheltenham like an Irish racecourse and, here, they've spent the last five trying to be like us."

In some ways, they have succeeded. It is a constantly expanding operation, a stamina test of eight races a day, and there were so many people here yesterday that the usual Cheltenham dilemma of whether to go to the bar, the bookmakers or the parade ring between races, because there is neither time nor space to do all three, was much in evidence.

The racing, too, was of Cheltenham quality - intensely competitive and often unpredictable. although there was something inevitable about Tony McCoy dropping in from his domination of the British season and winning on his first ride of the meeting. This was a sign



Billygoat Gruff clears the last on his way to victory in the Heineken Gold Cup at Punchestown yesterday

of better to come for the away team and in mid-afternoon David Nicholson sent out the first British-trained winner.

Billygoat Gruff's length victory over Twin Rainbow in the £60,000 Heineken Gold Cup was no surprise to Nicholson. He reported that the horse, bought as a foal for only £700 by his wife, Dinah, who also named him, was "wrong" when he fell at Cheltenham last time. But the result was gained only after a chaotic race in which five of the 20 runners fell at the fifth fence from home and

only seven completed the

If, however, the Irish like to think of these three days as their replica of Cheltenham. right down to the rolling hills and the nightly revelries, there are differences which must remain. Punchestown is a big event in a tiny place and it is the country setting and the rustic infrastructure

that bestow its charm. but they are also here to have The course buildings are ancient, almost shabby. The judge's box is reached up a rusting spiral staircase and the press box is a portacabin next to the weighing room. Nobody complains because this is rural Ireland. This is how it ought to be.

Certainly, the jockeys want necessity". There was only nothing to change. Mark Dwyer, born in Dublin before making his name in England, has been coming here for years and said: "It is second only to the Cheltenastonishment. ham Festival for me, yet much more relaxed. The pressure is not the same. People come for the racing

fun. It's just a wonderful Endorsement came from an unlikely source — the police caravan. where the duty sergeant cheerfully reported that their presence was "a duty rather than a one arrest on the first day - a pickpocketing charge - and the sergeant regarded my query about crowd disorder with a look of amused

"There are no fights, no trouble here. It is a pleasure to be present. But we do notice the difference between Flat and jumping crowds. The Flat people come and go quickly, but the jumping crowd come early and hang around late." Had he but known it, the sergeant was offering a suitable summary of the appeal of weeks such as this.

BEVERLEY

2.10 Wee Hope 2.40 Montecristo 3.10 MYBOTYE (nap) 3.40 Misky Bay 4.10 Eskimo Nel

Our Newmarket Correspondent; 3,40 Misky Bay, 4.10 Darling Clover. 4.40 PINE NEEDLE (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 5F. HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.10 FULFORD MAIDEN STAKES (£3,795; 5f) (13 runners) J FULFORD MAIDEN STAKES (£3.795; 51) (13 rumners)

AUTOBERRY (Mrs E Berry) C Farburs 3-9-0 L Chamuck —

O GLORIA IMPERATOR 17 (5 Larby Pariners) A MadroBand 3-9-0 M McAndrew —

80 BOLBORRE LAD 16 (M) (Mrs S Allert) J Balding 3-9-0 ... J Edmands (7) —

3-0 MAGIC MAIL 33 (6 Coult) J Esistace 3-9-0 ... R Cochrane 89

3-MAJOR GUBLITY 174 (Mrs Welt) J Fazeriame 3-9-0 D Harrison 95

623- WEE HOPE 217 (Maletour) Al Maddomin M Scoute 3-9-0 D McKnown 95

322- DARK DEED 225 (K Andrels) B 140s 3-8-9 ... Par Eddlery 95

06- FARIDA SECONDA 206 (Mrs H Montach) J Spearing 3-9-9 S Drowner (3) 52

06- FARIDA SECONDA 206 (Mrs H Montach) J Spearing 3-9-9 S Drowner (3) 52

06- FARIDA SECONDA 206 (Mrs H Montach) J Spearing 3-9-9 N Kennody —

GMARPINA 23 (Solute Riccing) J Beny 3-8-9 ... I Carrier 55

5-6- PRINCESS ERISO 17 J Graham B McMahon 3-9-9 J Carrier 55

3-34 SOLO SYMPHONY 17 (Mrs B Sangster) P Chample-Hvam 3-8-9 J Reid 65

4 Dark Deed 9-4 Wee Hous 6-1 Maior Quality 7-1 Solo Symphony. 12-1 Magic Mail, 14-1 Machina.

BETTING: 6-4 Dark Deed, 9-4 Wee Hope, 6-1 Major Quality, 7-1 Solo Symphony, 12-1 Mage: Mail, 14-1 Madrina, 1995: FARRY WIND 3-8-8 L Detron (11-4) N Callaghan 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

MAGIC MAIL 3½/1 3rd of 5 to Music Gold in maiden at York (5), good to firm) on perutitimate start MAJOR QUALITY 3½/1 3rd of 20 to Miss Riviers in maiden at Correster (6), good to firm) on perutitimate start. SQL 0 SYMPHONY 5½/1 4th on the MORE HOPE 3' 2nd of 19 to Keeper Dawn in maiden at Nottingham (6), good to soft) DARK DEED 31 2nd of 10 to Obsessive in maiden at Notingham (5). Selection: DARK DEED

2.40 PANNELL CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-0: 1m 1l 207yd) (9 runners)

| (3-Y-U: 1711 11 20 / yG) (3 Tutiners) | 201 (6) | 121633 MONTECRISTO 17 (U,6) (Matchews Breading) R Guest 9-7. | F Lynch (5) | 202 (5) (7 CHPALATA 13 (5 Taberter 7 Domelly 9-1 CREAD 9-SETTINGS, 5-4 Moniecristo 3-1 Caraco, 7-2 Appeal Again, 8-1 Monitern Clan. 10-1 Priunium Danter, 12-1 Cry Baby, 14-1 others

1995: TONKA 8-5 J Weater (5-2) D Murray Smith 13 ran

MONTECRISTO neck and 1341 3rd of 12 to Seneral Managher in handicap at Notingham (1m 22, good to firm). NORTHERN CLAN 121 13th of 22 to Tymesta in handicap at Mostlagham (61, good) appeal, AGAIN 111 7th of 18 to Tolera Questing transfers at Product of the Northern Clay of the North

3.10 GANTON RATED HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £4,671: 71 100yd) (7 runners)

| Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Composition | Long handicap: Margasia 8-6. Baileys First B-6. Mytonie; 7-13
BETTING: 3-1 State Of Caution, 4-1 Covote Bluff, 5-1 Mytonie; Scattach, 7-1 Margasia, 8-1 Baileys First, 14-1
Ratio Suortee.

1995; SHAHID 8-12 W Carson (4-5 law) J Dunlop B ran

MALA SUPRRISE about 4/sit 4th to Weel-A-Minute in Island race at Purticipant (Im., firm). STATE OF CAUTION 1/sit 2nd of 17 to Regal Archive in insaliding at Kemptina (IT, good). SIALTACH beat making at Kemptina (IT, good). SIALTACH beat first Meltin 5 im 14-minute hendicap at Doncaster (IT, soft). COYOTE BLUFF neck and 71 3rd of 4 to Sanstiane 31 in COYOTE BLUFF neck and 71 3rd of 4 to Sanstiane at Consideric race at Report (Im. 11.). Selection: STATE OF CAUTION

COURSE SPECIALISTS JOCKEYS

Regs % 26 30.8 13 30.8 18 27.8 11 27.3 88 21.6 24 20.8 TRAINFRS Pal Eddery
J Red
VY Carson
F Price
M Fenton
L Dettor





GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD_BF,F.G.S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 88

escaped without censure.

and nomber. Draw in brackets Str-liquer of F— fell P— pulled up. U — unstabled B— brought frown S— stephed up B— and C— offers principled. Hence's name. Days last outling, J if jumps, F of lat C0— C1. Such C2— in C3— soft, good to soft, beavy). Owned in bracket: C3— soft, good to soft, beavy). Owned in bracket: C4— in C5— C5— in C5— C5— in C5— C6— in C6— C6— in C6— i

3.40 MOORTOWN MAIDEN STAKES (£3,951: 1m 100yd) (13 runners)

BETTING: 2-1 Freequent, 7-2 Missiy Bay, 4-1 Caribbean Cancer, 6-1 Bright Desert, 12-1 Train, Meh The Clouds, 14-1 others.

1995; ROMANIZOF 3-8-11 W Rysin (2-1 lav) H Catol 9 rati FORM FOCUS

BOSTON ROCK about 12! 5th of 16 to Polinesso in realders at Rose (1m. good) with SOLIARED AWAY 10! 12th. LARBSEAM DANCER 10%; 10! 12th. BASHTINE-BOARDS 11! 8th to Carbunton in 14-ronner maider at Haydork (7t, soft) on perul-broade start. FREEDUBYT 9! 3rd to Thea to 15-curver maider at Region (7t, good) with ELT THE CLOUDS 6%! 7th of 21 to Germano in maiders at May Selection: FREEDUBYT
4.10 ALWOODLEY FILLIES HANDICAP (£3.241: 1m 1t 207yd) (19 runners)

	501	(8)	600025	ANCHORENA B (V) (Mrs. J Wichelow) J A Harris 4-9-10 J F Egan	92
	502	(11)	5821/5/	SLOELA 40J (D.S) (R Brews) J Fitzgerald 5-9-10 K Darley	-
	503	(18)	00/0-151	ESKINO NEL 13 (CD,6,5) (First Chance Racing) J Spearing 5-9-7 . K Fallon	97
	504	(19)	100523-	DARLING CLOVER 255 (F) (IL Craddock) D Morley 4-9-5 M Fanton	26
	505	(4)		WESTCOURT PRINCESS 13 (CD.F.G) M W Easterby 4-9-4 G Bardwell	93
	506	(6)		GREY AGAIN 13 (B.G) (Green Dermont Racing) S Bowing 4-9-3 C Teague (5)	92
	507	цэ		LAST SPIN 42J (Mrs E Long) J Jentons, 4-9-3	98
	508	(13)	10560-0	BOBANLYN 13 (D.F.G.S) (Mrs S Walles) J Walmenghi 4-9-2 D R McCabe (3)	Œ
	509	(15)		BROUGHTON'S PROF 26 (Mrs J Monts) J Glover 5-9-1	88
	510	(16)		MARADATA 21 (G) (R Hollinshead) R Hollinshead 4-9-0 L Deflori	91
	511	(3)	W1-5003	PROXERTON POLICA 13 (Miss E Macgregor) C British 4-8-13 M Birch	97
•	512	ଉ	550313/	MCCGLLYCLODY REEKS 353J (D.F.) (Elite Recong) H Tribber 5-8-12 L Charmock	_
	513	ein.	005-018	DANCE OF JOY 5 (S) (Mrs T Can) J Can 4-8-12 A Colgan (7)	94
	514	(9)		RESKY TU 13 (6) (L. Norris) P Keliciczy 5-8-10 R Cochrane	97
	515	ลัก		LADY SABBNA 35 (D,G) (W Musson) W Masson 5-8-9 R Price	91
	516	(14)	66,5040	MILL DANCER 14 (D.F.S) (Mrs. D. Jones) F. Alston 4-8-9 5 D. Williams	98
	517	(1)	ANNAN	APPEARANCE MONEY 17.1 (Inch Feshal Racing) F Murphy 5-8-7 J Faming	-
	518	(5)	420630	WESTERN HORIZON 185 (Wys) Hall Study C Britain 4-8-6 . 16 Heavy (5)	90
	519	(2)		ROSE CHAME 75 (F) (J South) J L Hams 4-8-5 J Dating	
				lel, 7-1 Westcourt Princess, B-1 Pinkerton Polita. 10-1 Anchorena, Darling Clover,	
			-1ethers.	1. 1. M(20070) LINGES' 8-1 Lawelle) [2007 10-1 Military respit mass?	
	MAG	28, IV	. (Of my 7		

1995: WONDERFUL DAY 4-9-8 K Darley (5-2 law) S Williams 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANCHOREMA 7%1 56 of 18 to Cartino Brigante in handicap at Proteinact (1m 21, good). BILDELA had Surray Dancar 11 in 12-union handicap at Brighton (1m, Beynachic (1m 21, soil) on peaulismet start. Cel 1993. ESIGNIO NEL had Princess Daniella 1¼1 in 15-unions solare par Nottinghem (1m 22, good to 50th DANI-NG CLOVER 741 3m of 8 to Woodrieung in etainure at Interests (1m 21, good to Woodrieung in etainure at Interests (1m 21, good to Soloviesson 14 in 18-unione selting handicap at Selection: ESIGNIO NEL

4.40 WOODHALL SPA HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,769: 1m 1l 207yd) (10 runners)

BETTING: 5-2 Faston, 9-2 Alambar, 6-1 Pine Mondie, 7-1 Ovvicon River, 8-1 Classic Colours, 10-1 Master Aspecie, 12-1 Diego, 14-1 others.

1995: DONT SHOOT FARRES 8-8 B Doyle (16-1) C Brittain 10 ran FORM FOCUS

D'MAAN best Milion Mi is 13-numer maites at Soufreell (AW. 1m) on penultimate start. PME MEEULE best Allesbury Hall 11 in 11-numer mauden at Moltagham (1m, good to soil) on penultimate start. FAATSC about 1341 Ath of 11 is Cassive Eagle in marden at Caspstone (1m, soit). ORIMOCO RIVER 211 9th of 14 to Shameten in maiden at Moltagham (1m, good).

☐ Mark Johnston sends his talented stayer. Double Eclipse, to Longchamp today for the group three Prix de Barbeville. Jason Weaver's mount faces 11 rivals in the 15-furlong contest.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: K Balley, 11 winners from 23 numers, 47.8%; M Hammand, 21 from 79, 26.6%; P Beaumont, 4 from 17, 23.5%; J Goldle, 4 from 19, 21.1%; P Monteith, 14 from 81, 17.3%; G Richards, 19 from 118, 15.1%. JOCKEYS; P Niven, 30 winners from 82 rides, 36.6%; F Leehy, 3 from 11, 27.3%; A Dobbin, 12 from 65, 18.5%; T Reed, 8 from 47, 17 0%; M Mokeney, 3 from 19, 15.8%; L O'Hara, 9 from 62, 14.5%.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Catterick Bridge

Collie (CA D) (Uge Going: good, good to soft in places 2.20 (5/212yd) 1, Panther () Wright, 10-1); 2. Best kept Secret (14-1); 3. The Institute Boy (8-1) Locknon 4-1 fav 13 ran. 4, 11-1 J Hetherton, Tote: \$10.20; \$2.20, \$2.00, \$2.70, \$0F (36.70 Time: \$70.40 CSF; \$145.58 2.50 (5f) 1, Mill End Glift (J F Egan, 7-2 g-fav), 2, \$C+Harry (7-1); 3, Face it (4-1) I Can't Remember 7-2 [J-lav 10 ran 14], Ink M W Essterby, Tote: £5.40, \$1.50, \$2.90, \$2.00 \$0F \$12.40, Time: \$11.70 CSF, £30 18 3.20 (1m 3f 214vd) 1, Hasta La Viste (R 3.20 (1m 3/214yd) 1. Hasta La Vista (R Mullen, 5-1 p.tav); 2. House Ol Dreams (16-1), 3. No Patiern (8-1). Admirals Secret 5-1 1-lav. 11 ran. 161, 41 M W Essistivy Tote. 52.70; 51.90, 55.60, 52.00 DF. 592.00 The Not won (Pool of £292.59 camed lorward to Severley 4 10 today) CSF £76.26 Treast £593.95

5593 95 3.50 (Im 3t 214yd) 1. Prince Of My Heart (M Hills, 7-4), 2. Swan Huster (10-1): 3. Renhard (5-2) House Of Riches 6-4 lav 4 ran 6t, 2t, 8 Hills Tote: £2.40 DF: £5.40 CSF: £13 18.

CSF: £13 18.
4.20 (5h 1, Goretald (L. Chamock, 5-1); 2.
First Maste (11-2); 3. Pleasure Time (25-1)
Green Barnes 9-4 tay 13 ran, 11. 4; N
finider Tole: £7.40; £2.20, £2.90, £13,90
DF £23.90 Time £305.20 CSF: £34.96
Timest: £822.87.
4.50 (7h 1, Master Boots (L. Dettort, 7-4); 2.
Elte Force (3-1); 3. Memob Hall Batal (11-5:
farif 8 ran, £81, 5i; D Loder, Tole; £2.40,
51.10, £1.50, £1.10 DF; £4.70 CSF; £7.84.
5.20 (7h 1, Engent Batal) (11-5: 5-20 (7h 1, Engent

5.20 (7) 1, Forest Boy (J F Egan, 6-1); 2, Seer Welcome (20-1), 3, Steep N Shady (6-1), 4 Green Gem (15-2), While Plants 3-1 lay 20 ran 2, 11 K McAulifle Tote 28 70, £2 30, £9 00, £2 40, £1,10 DF £135 50 Tno: £1,354,80 CSF Jackpot: 522,828,50 (Part won — pool of £16,078,44 carried forward to Beverley today).

today).
Piecepoi: \$268.50. Quadpot: \$50.40.

Southwell Going: standard 2.00 (Im) 1, Spencar's Revenge (G Bardwell, 7-2), 2, Bit Of Bother (5-2 tay); 3, Libac Rain (12-1), 9 ran 1 t-t, 3½, N Tinder, Tote: C3 40, 51.90, C1 50, £2 40, DF: £4 80 Tino £28 80 CSF £11.71

130 (1m 4f) 1, Carol Again (F Lynch, 7-2); 2.30 (1m 4f) 1, Carol Again (F Lynch, 7-2); 2, Tempering (7-1); 3, Shepherds Rest (10-1) Instantaneous 15-8 (av 8 (an. NR-Wadada, 8), 2%), N Byzrolt 70c 52 70 CSF: 626 38 Troest 6206 03

3.00 (fml 1, Avessome Venture (D R McCabe, 4-1); 2, Johnne The Joke; (8-1); 3, Ashgore (2-1 tay) 9 ran. Nš. 254 M Chapman. Tote 53 60. \$110. \$2.10. \$1.20. DF: \$20 10, Tno \$15 10 CSF: \$23 71. 3.20 (6) 1, Napler Star (C Teague, 33-1); 2 Frontman (11-4); 3, Depiction (6-4 lav) 6 ran NR: Topancora Bey 41, 21 Mrs, N Macauthy Tota: C57 10; 57 90, £1 80, DF £26.70, CSF: £113.39.

26.70. CSF: £113.39.
4.00 (6l) 1, Maiteamia (C Teague, 9-4 fav);
2. Auralah (14-1); 3, Seoking Destiny (7-1) 9 ren. 51, 11 S Bowring Tote: £3 10, £1 40, £4 70, £1.20. DF: £3 17 0 Tino, £28.60. CSF 530.21. Tricast: £179.24
4.30 (7l) 1, People Direct (Dane O'Nell, 15-8 fav); 2, Miss Offisci (9-2); 3, Loch Style (7-1) 9 ran. £1, 4, K McAufille, Tote: £2 10; £140, £1 50, £2 20. DF: £4.20 Tino £9.40 CSF £10.49

CSF £10 49
5.00 (7) 1. Domino Flyer (J Fortune, 8-1),
2. Young Mazzard (9-2 ba); 3. Hompipe (81); 4. Miss Til Colour (20-1) 16 ran \$1. ½1.
Mis A Switcherik, Toter £8.20, £1 70, £2 00,
23 40, £6.70 DF £6.40 Tile, £107 60 CSF
£43,10. Tricost £282.91 Quedpot: £18,90. Placepot: £32.20

Someth, Suit 2,40 (2m 4f 110yd holle) 1, Wassal Street (A S. Smith, 5-1); 2, Barnstormer (16-1); 3, Highland View (5-1) Conston Jokes 5-2 taw Juriseasted rider), 72 nan Dist, 9-1, K Mongan Tote E8 50, 12-30, 123 70, 12-10, DF: 173 10 Thrir 1204.00 CSF: 175 62. 273 10 100° E204.00 CSF: 275 62.
3.10 [3m 110yd helle] 1, Grace Card (Mr S Swiers, 14-1); 2; Brief Rounco (25-1); 3, Father O'Brien (12-1), Dorin Casde 5-2 law (ell) 11 rars NRP D'Arbley Streat, Nicholess Plant 294, 194, R Woodhouse Tote 217.20; E3.40, £4.90, £3.60 DF £187.70 rno: £207.80. CSF. £280.41 Tincast 53,893.65.

\$1,893 \$5.

3.40 (3m ch) 1, Howeleuch (8 Storey, 4-1);
2, Recleat Run (7-2); 3, Parsons Boy (10-11 av), 6 ran, Nr. (2t, J Oliver Tote: 24 90: Ct 80, £2 40 DF: £7 80 CSF £16 47

4.10 (2m 110yd hidel) 1, Merry Mermeld (8 Storey, 7-2 p-fav); 2, Current Speech (7-2 p-fav); 3, Steadard Effer (12-1), 7 ran 31, 101

B Maclaeggiant Tote: £4.00; £2.50, £2.40.

DF £4.90 CSF £15.28 DF \$4.90 CSF £15.28 4.40 (2m 4/ 110yd ch) 1, Potato Man {G Cchill, 8-1), 2, East Houston (6-1); 3, Stormy Coral (6-2)(av) 10 ran 2, 9, 8 Elisson, Totas £00.10; 6 7 70, £2.50, £1.60 DF £21.30. Trao £15 10 CSF: £51.74, Tncast, £142.63

Troc £15 10 CSF: £51.74 Threast: £142.63
5.10 (2m 110yd hdie) 1, Welsh M#I (P
Niven, 8-13 tay), 2, Music Bitz (50-1), 3,
Porphytios (10-3) 8 ran, 144, 41 Mrs M
Reveley Tote: £160: £1.10, £4.20, DF:
£3.40 (2m 4/110yd hdie) 1, Cettly Hang (Mr
W Morgan, 2-1 Lev); 2, Jubran (9-2); 3,
Blooming Spring (£5-1), 11 ran, 11, 231 J
Leigh Tote £2.40; £1.10, £2.00, £3.80 DF:
£5.80, Trio, £25.70 CSF: £11.60
Placepot: £1,079.80 — Quadpot: £10.30

THUNDERER 2.00 Grouse-N-Heather, 2.30 Act Of Faith, 3.00 Clay County. 3.30 Opera Fan. 4.00 Romany King. 4.30

Carl Evans: 4.00 Southern Minstrel,

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

2.00 TOTE CREDIT MAIDEN CHASE

(£3,571: 2m) (9 runners) 1 OS MAME TON TERRACE 33 K Barley 7-11-7 ... J Railton —
2 /P5 LITHISE-BRIB 332 A Crow 13-11-7 ... P Waggott —
3 5345 LIDM AND LET LIME 34 (V) Most L Russell 12-11-7 M Foster 80
4 663P ORD GALLERY 58 T Dyer 7-11-7 ... A Linton (T) —
5 23-0 WALLS COURT 5 J Berken 9-11-7 ... L O'Hears —
6 3P42 CALLED TO ACCOUNT 17P Mrs L Manshall 7-11-2 D Bersley —
7 FLORE 199 (B) K Barley 6-11-2 ... A Thornton —
8 -5P2 GROUSE-M-HEATHER 58 P Mandelin 7-11-2 ... A Dobbin 98
9 /P2 OMER THE ISLAND 10 H Johnson 8-11-2 . Mr C Boraner (3) 96

2.30 BANKERS INSURANCE COMPANY FUTURE STARS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(£4,572: 3m 110yd) (15) \$\frac{\xi \cdot \ 11-4 Act Of Faith, 7-2 Juliana, 9-2 Dun Coady, Manghiy Future, 8-1 Cragnabudy, 16-1 Chopwell Drapes, 12-1 others

☐ Bill Turner, the trainer, was fined £500 yesterday and his mare, Lying Eyes, disqualified for failing a dope test after winning at Wincanton in January.

3.00 RMC CATHERWOOD LTD LITTLE BAY HANDICAP CHASE (£6,808: 2m) (7)

5-4 Wee River, 6-4 Clay County, 8-1 Political Years, 12-1 Sonse Mo. 16-1 others. 3,30 AMERICAN BANKERS SELLING HURDLE

(£2,957: 2m 110vd) (11)

7-4 Opera Fan. 9-2 Eight Sharp 5-1 Virtage Taitunger 8-1 Drumdoore, 10-1 Principal Player 12-1 Home Park. Belle Rose, 14-1 others 4.00 PERTH HUNT BALMAKEHLLY CHALLENGE CUP

HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,316. 3m) (7) 1 1103 SOUTHERN MINSTREL 7 (F.G. 5) N Drambertain 13-12-5 5 Swiers 90 2 5R3 FSH OLWAY 199 (D.F.G. 5) Mis K Lamb 13-12-0 Miss S Camb (7) 03 3 -111 HOWAYMANN 297 (G.S.) K Anderson 6-12-0 ... A Parker [7] -4 3U21 LITTLE WESHLOCK 11P (F.S.) Mis D Sitzen 12-12-0 Min V Interno (7) ...

5 3-94 MF) DPI DMATIC 34 (8.6.5) J. Paine 13-12-0 M Bradborne (7) - 6
4-80 ROMANY KNG 28 (0.8.5) K Balley 12-12-0 ... C Benner (3) 8
7 F-P2 SECRET SCEPTRE 11P (6.5) R Barden 9-12-0 ... W Wilson (5) -7-4 Romany King, 5-2 Honogyman, 4-1 Southern Minshell, 8-1 Little Wenlock, 10-1 Mr Diplomatic, 14-1 Figh Duzy, 16-1 Secret Scapire

4.30 BANKERS EQUINE DIRECT HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,338: 2m 4f 110yd) (7)

9-4 Jympan Johnsy, 7-2 Scarba, 4-1 Urban Dancing, 6-1 Nadak, 7-1 Johns The Boy, 10-1 Burnt Imp Nicholas Plani

FONTWELL PARK

THUNDERER 2.20 Just Bruce, 2.50 The Carrot Man. 3.20 Raqib, 3.50 Menebuck, 4.20 Childhay Chocolate, 4.50 Haunting Music, 5.20 Antonio Mariano. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.20 JUST BRUCE.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

2.20 RMS AND TCR MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £2,119: 2m 2l) (12 runners)

2.50 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES AND CORNHILL LIFE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,207: 2m 2i) (13)

3-1 Lake Oi Lougerea, 4-1 Black Cherch, 5-1 Mine's An Ace, 6-1 Drumstick, 7-1 Remotion, 8-1 Relations Castle, 10-1 Wylam, 12-1 offices.

3.20 STREBEL BOILERS AND RADIATORS HANDICAP HURDLE (52.658; 2m 6l) (14) 1 UFU BEYOND OUR REACH 19P (D.G.S) R Hodges 8-11-10

1 UFU BEYOND OUR REACH 19P (D.G.S) R Hodges 8-11-10

2 2601 MESS DSSION 17 (CD.S) R Buckler 7-11-9 ... 8 Supple (7)

3 000P MURITARI 40 (S) C Harwood 5-11-8 6 Supple (7)

4 0835 RAGRS 8 (8) P Hitches 5-11-7 D Saldagher

5 2504 FOR KEVIN 38 (S) L Wells 9-11-4 G Hogan (3)

6 1162 PRESH CHIDICE 37 (CD.F.S) R Force 6-11-2 ... 0 Fortion (3)

8 5-60 RAMBIN 37 (CD.F.S.S) S Woodman 11-10-7 ... S Michell

9 2383 SCREPT 77 (F) J Jennes 5-10-5 S Force

10 0P00 MEANUS MILLER 14 (S) R Rove 8-10-0 ... L Aspel (5)

11 PISS 11. F THION 77 (N.F.C.) MES C Come 9-10-0 ... D Leativ

12 -251 PROJECT MASSAN 14 (CD.F.) K C-Brown 6-10-0 ... D Wash (3)

13 -PLS WILLIDSTO 77 (B.F.C.) R Ledger 8-10-0 ... MRS N Ledger

14 -540 CHIRAMAN 37 (C.F.) J Moditor 7-10-0 ... MRS N Ledger

14 Mess Deata 7-2 Fresh Chance 5-1 For Tractor 6-1 Prince Nasion 7-1 Imbert 3-1 Mess Dislota, 7-2 Fresh Chouse, 5-1 Rep Trastey, 6-1 Prince Nasika, 7-1 others

3.50 TRUNDLE HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,045: 3m 2i 110yd) (7) 1 -540 MENEBUCK 22 (C.F.G.S) Lady Herries 10-11-12 E Murphy 2 3F16 SANGGLER'S POINT 6 (F.G.) R O'Sullivan 6-11-0 S Curran 3 5630 JADOH 12 (F.G.S) C Wildman 6-10-10 . O Salar (S) 4 2-41 PUNCH'S HOTEL 206 (B.CD.F.G.S) R Rove 11-10-10 D O'Sullivan 0 O'Soliwan
5 40LIP ROYAL SOLIARE 15 (C.F.R.S.) G Harwood 10-10-9 S McNobil
6 0F10 DOMANE 36 (B.R.F.R.S.) K Basby 8-10-8 T J Marphy (3)
7 DARR ST VILLE 12 (B.S.) R Buckler 10-10-0 B Proved 7 DARR ST VILLE 12 (6.5) R Buckler 10-10-0. I J Idanphy (3) 11-4 Snaggler's Post, 7-2 Domene, 5-1 Punch's Hotel, Jadidh, 6-1 Royal Square. Menebuck, 12-1 SI Ville 4.20 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES NOVICES

1 012 CHOLDHAY CHOCOLATE 19 (CD, EF,F,S) P Nichola 8-11-8 P Hote

1 UL12 FDXGROWE 9 (F.G) R Price 10-11-3 ... B Fenton (3)

3 255U CALL ME RAYER 17 (6F) P Hedger 8-11-2 I Learnesce
4 PP25 MMCR CLOUD 14 C Weedon 7-11-2 B Hogan (3)

5 -662 FBARRUL PRINCE 7 C Michell 12-11-2 J Power (7)

5 1453 OMEDJOY 17 (8/F) J Jenium 6-10-11 J Power (7) 5-4 Childhey Chocolete 3-1 Forgume, 9-2 Call Me River, 5-1 Tearlul Prince, 10-1 Dradgey, 14-1 Inver Cloud

4.50 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES AND FINBAR NOVICES HURDLE (\$2,658: 2m 6f) (12) 6-4 Hauming Music, 7-2 Tim, 5-1 Spring Grass, 6-1 Zeredar, 7-1 General Jackie, 10-1 Milliagne, 12-1 others

5.20 RMS AND TOR MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £2,098: 2m 2f) (12)

3-1 Pretona Dancer, 7-2 Arbonio Mariano, 4-1 Colentige, 6-1 Whicting Buck, 7-1 Night in A Million, 8-1 Analogue, 10-1 others

Blinkered first time

BEVERLEY: 2 10 Golborne Lad 3.40 Legal Brief FONTWELL PARK: 4 50 Minuture Melody. 5 20 Night in A Millson

'Snooker is

nothing if not

entertainment'

Play the game but don't wear the pullover

boyant mockery of an opponent who has mucked things up is nothing new in sport. Some games even have it deep in their make-up. When the British Raj was at its height, young officers would while away the long afternoons of the rainy season around the billiard table. In 1875, the Devonshire Regiment was stationed at Jabalpur, in India, and there, as elsewhere, the officers found billiards all too boring compared with varia-

tions like pyramid or black pool - games that used a lot of red balls could accommodate more than two players and add a welcome touch of gambling.

One inspired subaltern, named Neville Chamberlain, had the great idea of adding other coloured balls yellow, green and pink for a start --- to liven up the contest. Great game, all it needed was a name.

Enter a visiting second-lieutenant who had been trained at the Royal Military Academy in Woolwich. He revealed that first-year cadets there were known as "snookers", and that the term was in use as all-purpose

insult for the lowest of the low. Chamberlain evidently savoured a fresh insult as much as a novel game, and next time an opponent missed an easy pot, he mocked him as a "regular snooker". The insult caught

on among the players and the game has been called snooker ever since.

This week, the game whose very name is a mocking insult has seen a war of words over the conduct of one of its players who was accused of being "disrespectful" to his opponent. Ronnie O'Sullivan upset the snooker establishment - and his opponent, Alain Robidoux - last weekend at the Embassy world championship in Sheffield, when he played some shots with his left hand.

As the defeated French Canadian left the table at the end of the game, he refused to shake hands, and worse was to follow at the post-competition press conference. Robidoux protested

that O'Sullivan had not shown him enough respect. "It might be good for the crowd," he said, "but I was struggling with my game and he was only rubbing it in.

O'Sullivan rubbed it in further by saying: "I didn't give him any respect because he didn't deserve it ... his performance was useless, rubbish ... so was mine. I was just slapping the balls about."

O'Sullivan, of course, was playing to the crowd and showing off a bit. He was dominating the game and humbling his opponent — which is more or less the aim in sport. His crime was that he showed it. For what is acceptable in the way of



gratuitous humiliation of an opponent varies from sport to sport.

When you hit a home run in baseball, for instance, you still run round all the bases. You do not strut, you do not swagger, you do not rub in your superiority. But, in boxing, it is all part of the game to humiliate your opponent. For a man like Naseem Hamed, arrogance and brashness are as much a part of the package as his ability to hit. The same was true of Muhammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard and a catalogue of other greats.

In golf, it would be considered outrageous to show disrespect for a struggling opponent. At the Masters in Augusta, Nick Faldo betrayed not a flicker of triumph as he watched Greg Norman go to pieces. Yet other sports, like cycling, seem positively to enjoy the sight of a champion dishing out punishment to lesser performers. "Victory is the very essence of sport," vanquish gave me the nickname of Cannibal."

Earlier this year, Great Britain's best 400-metres runner, Du'aine Ladejo, earned a dressing-down from his team manager, Verona Elder, for his antics during a relay. Ladejo thought he was delighting the crowd at Glasgow's Kelvin Hall when. almost a lap from the finish and ten

vards in the lead, he began waving his baton in a victory salute. Then he slowed down, allowed a hapless French runner to close, only to outsprint him with another wave. The

crowd loved it, and

Steve Ovett, commen-

tating for television. said: "Good stuff. I enjoy a bit of that." Elder said: "It was not the sort of thing we would encourage," and there were some sniffy letters to Athletics Weekly. But Ladejo saw his

performance as simply "entertaining

the crowd". And entertainment is the key. For snooker is nothing if not entertainment. It works so well on the small screen that it might have been invented for television. But, to be entertaining, the games must be dramatic and closely fought. In the days before television coverage, Joe Davis virtually killed off the world championship by monopolising it from 1927 to 1946. Quite simply, no one could beat him.

Ironically, earlier in his career, local miners who found him much too good at taking their stake money away used to insist that Davis play them left-handed to even things up a bit - foreshadowing one of the crimes of which poor O'Sullivan now

stands accused. The other dark, disciplinary cloud that hangs over his head concerns a pullover. The World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association is investigating not just his behaviour

towards Robidoux but also the heinous charge that, at the The acceptable European Open in Malta two months varies from ago, O'Sullivan arrived for a pre-event sport to sport reception wearing a polo-neck jumper

when the players were required to wear lounge suits. As O'Sullivan goes out today to

play his second-round game against Tony Drago in Sheffield, he should reflect that he has a good defence to some of the charges. In the matter of insults, he is as innocent as the very man who gave the game and its name to the world. And, in playing lefthanded to liven things up, he was but following the great Joe Davis

Sadly, when it comes to the pullover, he is probably guilty as

JOHN BRYANT

ERIC WHITEHEAL

Griffiths focuses on great escape

TERRY GRIFFITHS, a veteran of 18 Embassy world snooker championship campaigns, has never been involved in a more dramatic finish than that to his 10-9 victory over Jamie Burnett in the first round of this year's event at the Crucible Theatre. Sheffield, yesterday.

After trailing 6-0, 8-3 and 9-5. Griffiths, winner of the 1979 championship as a rookie professional, summoned up the fighting qualities for which he is renowned to earn a meeting with Steve Davis in the last 16.

Meanwhile. Burnett, 20, was left to ponder a shot with which he will long be associated. When Griffiths found no escape route from a snooker in the tense deciding frame, he left Burnett with a glorious opportunity to stumble over the line. The Sont cleared the last two reds to green but. requiring only the brown off its spot to leave Griffiths needing a snooker, Burnett inexcusably screwed the cue-

ball in-off to a middle pocket. "I was resigned to defeat, then disaster struck Jamie and suddenly I had another chance. How I held myself together I'll never know. But the moral of the story is never to give up," Griffiths said, after clearing brown to black

under intense pressure. As was to be expected from a true gentleman, who had gone out of his way to put Burnett at ease on his Crucible debut, Griffiths expressed sympathy for his rival. "It's a horrible way to lose and, no matter how pleased I am. I can't help feeling sorry for the lad.

Griffiths, who despite this result is sure to be relegated from the game's top 16, was heading for an embarrassingly heavy defeat when Burnett.

SCORES

FIRST ROUND, England unless stated) N Band to A Hamilton 10-9 K Deherty (Ire) bt N Terry 10-5, J Hyggris (Sart) bt M Clark 10-5 T Griffiths (Walso) by J Burndt (Soch 10-9).

a former United Kingdom junior champion, established a 6-0 lead in the first session on Tuesday.

The first inkling that Griffiths, at 48 the oldest competitor in the field, could possibly mount a recovery, presented itself when he won the closing two frames of the opening session but Burnett, still a toddler when his opponent lifted the trophy here, moved 8-3 ahead on the resumption. Then suddenly, Griffiths

began to fire. Breaks of 43, 55,

67 and 50 helped him rally to 7-9 and he won the seventeenth frame on the blue after Burnett, by now understandably nervous, missed a black off its spot and squandered chances on both yellow and

A difficult yellow across the balk cushion, with the remainder of the colours at his mercy. also eluded Burnett in the next and Griffiths fashioned a clearance to set up a deciding frame that could hardly have

been more gripping. Griffiths, who has struggled in vain to make the adjustment to the bifocal spectacles failing eyesight forced him to wear for the first time this season, was in no doubt why he won. "I might have lost most things from my game. but I haven't lost the will to

win," he said. John Higgins, widely regarded as the most realistic challenger to the continued world championship dominance of Stephen Hendry, failed to engage top gear but still registered a 10-5 win over Martin Clark.

Darren Morgan, who captured his first major title at the Irish Masters last month, unexpectedly trailed Drew Henry, a Scottish qualifier, 5-4. entering their concluding



Griffiths, who now needs spectacles, gives a testing shot complete concentration

Beadsworth unbowed

fifteenth.

WORD-WATCHING

(b) A mythical bird that grieves continuously. As far as is scrutable from the limited evidence available, this has no connection with the mystifying

title of the classic Howlin' Wolf number Wang-dang-doodle, with its

haunting refrain "We're gonna pitch wang-dang-doodle all night long."

(c) Speaking lies, from the Latin mendax lying + loquor, loqui to speak.

MPs please note. If you say the word fast enough and with a strong

enough regional or class accent in the Chamber when so characterising

another parliamentarian (and Hansard knows, in that place it is the

highest most commonly applicable epithet), Madam Betty Speaker might

(c) To tame or reclain from a state of wildness. "Kathryn, I am not having

that young masn of your in the house again until he has been thoroughly

(a) Excessive: cloying through surfeit. Widely misused as a compliment.

On the contrary, fulsome praise is toe-curling over-praise, as for example

that given by a British sports commentator to the British team who have

just come last in the first heat of the synchronised swimming in the

Commonwealth Games. Derived from full, but applicable, oddly enough.

only to praise. One does not speak of fulsome criticism or fulsone abuse.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Ke5! and if either rook moves to f8, then 2 Rh7+ Kg8 3 Rcg7 is

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ANDY BEADSWORTH, Barry Parkin and Adrian Stead produced a fine performance under pressure here in Hyères on the Côte d'Azur yesterday to book their place in the final match-racing stages of the Soling class at the French Olympic classes regatta (Edward Gorman writes). Beadsworth went into the race yesterday — the fifth in

the series - lying tenth, two places outside the qualification positions with the Dane, Theis Palm, and the Austrian, Michael Luschan, to beat. Sailing in their third-string boat, they showed good speed

WHANGDOODLE

MENDACILOQUENT

iust let you get away with it.

CICURATE

FULSOME

up the first beat in light shifting conditions and rounded the mark in ninth.

By the first downwind mark, they had improved to seventh and, on the last run, they overcame the South African, Bruce Savage, in a closefought gybing match to finish in sixth place. This put them two points ahead of Luschan who finished eleventh, and five ahead of Palm, who was

In the 470s, John Merricks and Ian Walker moved into a commanding overall lead with a third place in the third race of the final series.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL Kuck-oti 7 30 unless stated Vauxhall Conference

Slalybridge v Northwich (7.45) ... BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier di-vision: Gresley v Cambridge City (7 45). Southern division: Woston-super-Mare v Bramtree

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshaho v Worthing (7.45); Grays v Boreham Wood First division: Theme v Oxford City Second division: Hungerlord v Carvey Island. Third division: Epsom and Ewell v Kingsbury. UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier of Gainsborough v Chorley, Know

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Pirst

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich v Cheleea (at Buy St. Edmunds); Walford v West Ham (2.0). Second division: Birmingham v Bournemouth (2.0); Plymouth v Newport AFC PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGULE: First division: Stoke v Derby (7.0). Second division: Coventry v Bradford (7.0); Manchester City v Gimsby (at Witton Alborn FC, 7.0); Middleebrough v Sunderland (7.0) LEAGUE OF WALES: Cemaes Bay of Connah's Quay.

CONTRAT S LULRY,
MINERVA SOLUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE:
Senior division: The 61 FC (Lutor) v
Ampthilt; Risborough Rgrs v Holmer Green;
Houghton v Kenf Ath; Winslow v Laverstock
Green

EMDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division; Ansels v West Midland Fire Savids; Knowle v Covertry Sphans; Massey Fedjuson v Otton Royals; Mer KA v Bioxerdt; Sharley v Studiey BKL; Southern v Colombil!

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division; Shortwood v Endsleigh. NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Cup Final: Burscough v Flaton. BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division; Lye Town v Westields. JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: March v Dess; Sudbury Res v Fakenham. UNIVET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Burgers Hill v Peacahaven and

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: emier division: Brigg Town v eschoughtor Weltare; Stocksbridge PS v WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Whitstable v Chatham.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: Net ional League: Milmail Lionesses v Crowdon ional League: Militaal Lionesses v Croydon SCHOOLS MATCHES: Essex Cup: Semi SCHOOLS MAIGHEST EAST CORE SAMP-final: Horborshive v Kert (Walwyn Garden City, 7.0). Hobbs Trophy: Sami-final: Vale of White Horse v Mid-Deon (Letrombe FC, 6 15). Tent Harveri Trophy: Final: North Kont v Bromley (Cobdown, 6 15) Essex Clark Cup; Harlow v Newham (Harlow Sports Cartre, 8.0). Essex Black Final: Manor v Brentwood, (Dagentarn, 5.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

OTHER SPORT

Huddersfield v Whitehaven (7 30) ..

SNOOKER: Embasoy world champonship (Crucible Theatre, Shelfield)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Ipswich v Shelfield (7.30), London v Codely Heath and Stoke (7.30). Speedway Star Cup: Pirst round, wacond leg: Middlesbrough v Hut (7.30).
Tablités: I Talwomen's salcille businament

Slaughter of the innocent The Mineclearers. Radio 4, 7.20pm.

Whether anything will come of current moves to ban the manufacture and sale of landmines is, unfortunately, nor in the lap of the gods. The deities would never have turned a blind eye to the estimated 100 million mines that remain scattered throughout more estimated tOU mittion mines that remain scattered unroughout more than 60 countries, killing or maining the innocent. Brian than 60 countries, killing or maining the innocent. Brian than restricts his grim report to the one-time killing fields of Cambodian from which he used to file his reports. The British charity halo uses from which he used to file his reports. The British charity halo uses exercicement to clear the mines and train Cambodians to tackle the dangerous job themselves. Barron goes out on a minedeanie operation that is chilling to listen to. The big bang that results proclaims the fact that Cambodians have only another seven million. buried killers to worry about.

Life, Death and Sex with Mike and Suc. Radio 4.6.30pm

BBC producers don't always like to send out preview takes of new comedy series. They fear a kneejerk thumbs down response from critics. And with mixed metaphors like that, who could blame them for having qualms? They needn't worry about my response to life, Death etc. I thought Bill Dare's sequence of stretches paradying breakiast time TV chat shows was fresh, funny, fast and tree of had jokes about bodily functions and sexual aberration. Robert Duncan and Julia Hills cope delightfully with Bill Dare's kindly distortion of the Annes and Nicks of the small screen.

RADIO 1

PM State 4,00cm Cave Warten 6.30 Chris Evans 9,00 Sanon Mayo 12.00 Lisa Fanson, incl at 12,30-12,45pm Newsbeat 2,00 Naily Campbel 4,00 Mark Gooder are 5,30-5,45 Newsbeat 7,00 Evening Session with Stave Lamacq and to Whitey 9,00 Soundarte, with Deny Kelly 10,60 Mark 2,admin. with Darmy Kelly 10.00 Mark Pacicities 12.00 Clare Sturgess

RADIO 2

PM Stereo. 6.00am Marth. Keher 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Janmy Young 1.30pm Judi Spiers 3.30 Ed Stevart 5.05 John Durin 7.00 The News Huddlines 7.30 David Allan 9.00 Paul Jones 9.45 Gospel Train 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Sieve Madden 3.00

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morring Reports 6.00 The Break'ss: Programme and 6.55, 7.55 Reuning preview 8.35 The Magazine and 10.35 Euronews 11.30 Health News 12.00 Midday with Mar inc 12.34pm Morsycheck with Kate Deniam 1.15 Epitelanment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Strategisters were 200 notice of five mil at 2.15 Prime Minster's Caestion Time 4.00 John Inventale Nationarde, and 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Edra with Valent Sanderson, mil at 7.29 Sport 7.35 Quite Remarkable A profile of the sports commentater David Coleman who cale-brates his 70th banday tomorrow 8.05 Warren on Top 9.05 SportsAmerica 9.35 American Graffiti 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra 12.05cm After Hours — Early Call 2.05 Up AF Night

TALK RADIO 6.30am The Breaktast Show with Paul Ress 10.00 Seet Chisholm 1.00cm

All Innes in 551, 3,000 Newsley 6,30 Europe Today 5,00 News 7,15 World, Today 7,30 Sports International 8,00 News 8,14 World of Feith 8,30 Network LK 9,00 News Inc. News 8.10 Words of Feith 8.15-08 freShell 8.30 Network LIK 9.00 News InGerman 9.15 Compose of the Morth 9.45 Health Matters 10.00 News 10.05 Business 10.15 Sports International 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newselesk 11.20 BBC English 11.45 Oil the Shell 12.00 World News 12.30pm; Meridian 1.00 News In German 11.35 Batein Jodge 1.30 Assignment 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outdook 3.39 Multimate K Press 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News or Seaman 5.00 Europe Todgy 5.30 Business 5.45 Batein Todgy 8.00 News 6.10 World Todgy 6.25 Teics Free 6.30 News in German 6.45 Sport 7.00 Newsdesk 7.36 Assignment 8.00 Newsdesk 7.36 Assignment 8.00 World News 10.35 Business 10.15 Britan Todgy 10.39 Meridian (Books) 11.00 Newsdesk 11.36 World Todgy 11.45 Sport 12.30 Newsdesk 2.30 Outdook 2.55 Worlds of Feith 3.00 Newsdey 3.36 Tright-Minute Decrease 4.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00mm Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mire-Read 9.00 Herry Kelly 12.00 Susamah Santons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newscript 6.30 Sonets 7.00 Travel Guide 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin, 1.00mm Mer Concer

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00mm Russ 'n' Jono 9.80 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paial Coyle 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00mm Robin Banks Arria Raebum 3.00 Tommy Boyd 5.00 Fater Devley 7.00 Sport 10.00 James Whale 1.00am ian Collins

6.00am On Air. Presented by Andrew MacGregor Anon (Sarum chant: A solis onus cardine), Brahms (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat); Scarlatti (Sonata in C. Kk A minor); Verdi (Overture: The Force of Cestiny: Hande The Lord our enemy has

stain) 9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambeccini. Virgil Thomson (Suite: The Ploy that Broke the Plans); Verdi (Surta e la notta; Emami,

involami); Beethoven (Piano Stephanie Hughes. Berlioz (March to the Scaffold, Symphonie lantastique); Satie (Parade); Fanny Mendelssohn (Piano Trio in D minor); Spoty (Seven Songs, Op 154) 11.15 Artists of the Week: The Sixteen under Harry Christophers, Frank Martin

(Mass for double choir) 11.40 Mozart (Fantasia in D minor, K 397); Puccini (Turandot, excerp(s)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Szymanowksi, Arr Kochanski, Roxana's Song (King Roger); King Roger (excerpts) 1.00pm We Must Get Together

Some Time. Gordon Stewart introduces the final selection of operatic excerpts in this senes of three, includes excerpts from Cosi fan tutte Carmen and Candide
2.00 Schools Radio Showcase

2.05 In the News 2.25 Something to Think About 2.40 Music Workshop 3.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC

Concert Orchestra, under Barry Wordsworth. The first performance of Paul Reade's Byron, with John Carlisle as

speaker 5.00 The Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson
5.15 in Tune, includes, Prokofey les.Addicutes The Lave for

Three Oranges): Haydn (Piano Tno in D minor, H XV 6.30 The BBC Symphony Orchestra European Tour. Live from the Konzenthaus, Vienna, Heinrich Schiff, cello,

under Andrew Davies, Berlioz (Overture: Béatrice et Benedict): Dvorák (Cello Concerto in B minori 7.20 Anthony Burton and David Matthews discuss rippert, in symphonist (r) 7.40 Tippett (Symphony No.4) 8.30 Distant Contemporaries, Ruth Crouch, violin, Ursula Smith, cello, Peter Donohoe, piano, James Clark, violin, and Catherine Marwood, viole, confront Electric Control

viola, perform Elgar (Quintet for violin and cello); Ravel (Sonata for violin and cello) 9.40 Epics of Everyday Life. Susan Richards's account of

her travels through the former Soviet Union, read by Elaine Claston (3/4) 10.00 Music Restored, with Helen Gamison. A concert given by the Orlando Consort lest

north in Bath
10.45 Night Waves
11.30 Composer of the Week:
Debussy, includes
Noctumes; La Puerta del 12.30-1.00am Jazz Notes in New

York, with Digby Fairweather

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing Incl Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today Incl. 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Mazze, Jeremy Vine's Quests include

Jeremy Vine's guests include Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Michael Marsfield OC and Dr David Starkey 10.00 News: Brighton Rock (FM only). The first episode of a

five-part dramatisation of Graham Greene's classic tale. With Steven Mackintosh and Claire Skinner (f) 10.00 Daily Service (LW only) 10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only) 10.30 Woman's Hour 11.30 From Our Own

Correspondent 12.00 News; Your and Yours, with Chris Choi Cris choi

12.25pm Looking Forward to the

Past Paul Boateng, MP is
joined by James Cox, Lady
Antonia Fraser, Professor
Roger Gosden and Dr

Thomas Shateford 2 as

Thomas Stuttaford 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Judith Shake:

by Nan Woodhouse. The story, set in the early 17th century, of William Shakespeare's younger daughter. With Amanda Root and Michael Pennington News; The Afternoon Shift,

with Daire Brehan 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope 4.45 Short Story: The Weighlit

Up, by Angela Huth, Life is a

whirl of walnut clusters and chocolate cremes for Avril Mullins. Read by Brigit Forsyth
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.55 Weather
6.00 Stx O'Clock News

6.30 Life, Death and Sex with Mike and Sue. See Choice 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 The Mineclearers. See Choice
8.00 Analysis. Punish or Pardon?
Should the perpetralors of past political crimes be

hunted down and punished? 8.45 Better Left Unsaid? unsent letter from the journalist Ken Lukowiak to

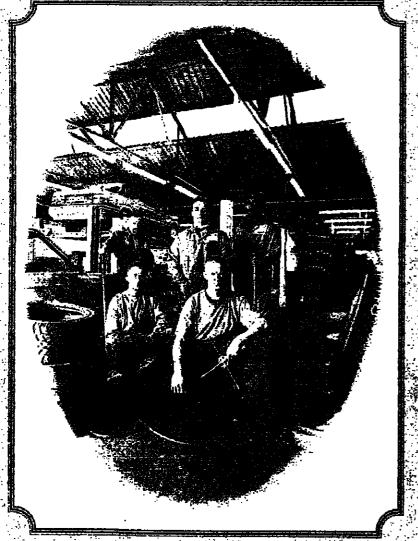
Mostar (3/6)
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? With 10.00 The World Tonight, with

Robin Lustig 10.45 Book at Bedtime: A Shropshire Lad (4/5) Second Bite — Late Night. The Thrill of the Chase by Craig Baxter. An award-winning play which tells the story of an immaculately

conceived baby. With Jeren Colton, Shirin Taylor and Geoffrey Leesley (r) 11.30 Utopla and Other Destinations (FM c tions (FM only). Patricia J. Williams, Profe of Law at Columbia

University, talks to Michael O'Donnell (5/6) (r) Today in Parliament (LW 11.30 Tor 12.00 News Incl 12.27am Weather 12.30 The Late Book Lipetick of the Hest, by Aidan Matthews (4/7) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK MW 1053, 1089.Televisionand radio listings compiled by Peter Dags. Ign Hunter



the old enight by payequorgy

BUT THANEFULLY NOT IN BURTON. MARSTON'S PEDIGREE REMAINS THE COLDEN PINT IT ALWAYS WAS, BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY BEER TRADITIONALLY BREWED IN WOODEN CASES.



Air cuts losses \$32.3m

which is 25 per cent by Bruish Airways. corded a net loss of million in the first of this year. man, said that he was pointed with the rein a quarrer when airlines had reported i profits. It is, howar, in provement on 42 million loss reportthe company at the Unic last year.

Wolf said that busiwas lower than norin January and unity because of narsh er weather March scen a return to a tal level. There was a in revenues from \$1.8 on to \$1.0 billion.

uard quits

and Youard, the inment umbudsman for o, the watchdog for i managers, is to stand mon May 1. He will be aced by Peter Dean. may chairman of the nepolies and Mergers RULESSION.

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Vive James tuned in to a public access channel in New York several years ing her larynx. As James said: When she sings she stirs your Margarita Pracatan, who is a singer. Who is a singer? Thank you brains around with a spoon." Margarita has no singing talent whatsoever and that is her

> She is a lady of a certain age, She wears a riot of primary colours resembling a tube of Smarties left near an open fire. Those who think the latest football strip designed by Umbro for the England goalkeeper is the most hideous concoction in sartorial history have yet to see

> If the clothing is loud, the syntax is a dictionary consulted at random. On a tour of Edinburgh, she sits at a keyboard in a musical instrument store and asks the Scottish salesman for a price: "Talk to me in English, how much dollars?" On a tourist bus, having been battered by Roberts (Bruce, Adam etc) she announces: "They

singer, though she could empty the middle of the M25 just by expand-The unlikeliest Titans of English popular culture are reduced, magnificently, to sex objects. James has "bedroom eyes" and Margarita likes "patting his head". She thinks she loves him. On a live discussion show, she tells Ned Sherrin — of all people - "I am into you already". And interrupts a Sherrin reference to her talent with the God's honest truth: "I don't have

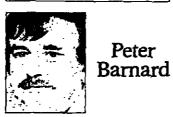
talent at all, honey."

side from the fact that I will A surely never forget hearing Sherrin called honey, that was the moment that defined Margarita's triumph. Her personality could bring about a total eclipse of the sun, but her success on stage arises not out of being better than us, but out of being just as had. James had it right: "She is us without the lear of failure." Nobody in the television sched-

ules last night lacked ability the

REVIEW

So refreshing, this Margarita from Cuba



way Margarita lacks ability. But she is a bigger star than the lot of them, for she dares you not to admire her. And you dare not.

Peter

Some years ago I sat at a desk with Linda Lusardi's thighs adjacent to my keyboard. I forget why she was having her photograph taken sat on my desk, though you will realise that she is not the only Page 3 girl to demand this

Here..? (ITV) sent Lusardi to do an item on the Dominican Republic. They should have sent Margarita, who would have formed a government by the end of the first week. Lusardi kept her bikini top on but otherwise failed to distin-

Why do holiday programmes feel obliged to send "personalities" to resorts? And why do so many of the personalities behave as if they are startled to find a television camera under their noses? "Oh hello, I was just leaving but

I suppose I can spare a couple of minutes." This was Lusardi's introduction to the item: patronise the viewer while packing to go home, a surefire way to get us on

Lusardi found the Dominican Republic cheap, but of course holiday spending is not over until you have taken the taxi from Heathrow, Still, Modern Times:

remarkable feat of making me feel sorry for putative London cabbies. The programme obtained, apparently for the first time, access to the Public Carriage Office, which tests candidates on "the knowledge". It is, undeniably, a torturing process with arcane proce-

dures and undertones of the super-

cilious attitudes encountered in

our schooldays. Thus one examiner, on discovering that a candidate had unwisely spent the two weeks prior to the test on holiday: "Where did you go on holiday. Mr Wood?" "Spain." "It shows — leave the door open on your way out."

ondon cabbies are a fabulous source of inaccurate dinformation, so I was prepared to treat as apocryphal accounts of a black candidate being asked the route from Blackboy Hill to the Race Rela-

being tested on the routes between various army barracks.

Apocryphal, that is, until the camera filmed a candidate who had been jailed for burglary many years earlier being asked to start a journey at the Penal Reform Society. Mr Ormes, the examiner, said later that he was unaware of the man's record when he asked the question. Mr Ormes keeps a plastic parrot on his window ledge which faces out when he has had a good day and in when he has had a had one.

The best bit, however, was when Modern Times revealed that, according to the inland Revenue, the reward for going through years of redalling around London on a bicycle and umpteen attempts to pass the test is, on average, £10,000

Come off it Squire: you pulling my leg, or woi? If the taxman believes that, I sink he is crazy,

6.00am Business Breakfast (22038) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceelax) (53309) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax)

ago, catching sight and sound of

for asking: Kiri Te Kanawa is a singer. Ella Fitzgerald is a singer.

Margarita sings, but so does a

At any rate, James was en-

thralled by Margarita, so he asked

her to Britain. Margarita, whose

English is as fractured as her

notes, puts it this way: "He ask me

Clive James Introduces Mar-

garita Pracatan (ITV) was the

craziest, most uplifting thing on

television last night, an account of

Margarita's trip to play the Edin-burgh Festival. The theatre was

packed. The streets were packed.

She even drew a crowd to the

Margarita, a Cuban exiled to

New York, is a middle of the road

to London, I sink he is crazy."

kettle.

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (7711458)

9.45 Kilray (s) (1864651) 10,30 Good Morning (s) (96545) 12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (6567361)

12.05pm World Championship Snooker (s) 12.35 Going for Gold. The genial Henry Kelly hosts the general knowledge quiz (s)

(3403309) 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceelax) and weather (56496)

1.30 Regional News and weather (94145106) 1.40 Neighbours (Ceetax) (s) (44247670) 2.00 The Flying Doctors (52467)

3.30 Playdays (r) (s) (1386564) 3.50 Dinobebies (1293800) 4.10 The Wizard of Oz (Ceelax) (s) (2576651) 4.35 The Boot Street Band (r) (Ceelax) (s) (9175361) 5.00 Newsround (Ceelax) (1688212) 5.10 The Ant and Dec Show (Ceafax) (s) (1884816)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceelax) (s) (329274) 6.00 News (Ceetax) and weather (632) 6.30 Regional News Magazines (212) 7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (5187) 7.30 EastEnders. Pauline is off to Jersey

but will Mark wish her bon voyage? (Ceetax) (s) (496) 8.00 Wildlife on One. The golden hombill is captured on film in the African savannah. Despite their comical appearance hombills are teroclous bunters. But they do have another side — they are sociable

birds who live in tight-knit family groups. (Ceelax) (s) (4835) 8.30 Noel's NTV Stars. Noel Edmonds looks at some lavourite moments from the past five years of Noel's House Party (Ceetax)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceetsx), regional news and weather (7380)

9.30 Absolutely Febulous. Patsy becomes involved in a sex scandal. With a host of guest stars including Helena Bonham Carter, Mandy Rice-Davies, Richard E. Grant, Germaine Greer and Suzi Quatro (r) (Ceelax) (s) (54941)

10.00 Crimewratch UK. Nick Ross and Jill Dando team up with the forces of law and order to try to solve crimes with the aid of iewers (Čeetax) (s) (724125)

10.45 Question Time. Political debate chaired by David Dimbleby from Nottingham. The guests tonight are MPs Paddy Ashdown, Angela Browning and Robin Cook and chief economic adviser, CBI, Kate Barker (Ceetax) (544670) N.L.: 10.45 Spotlight 11.15 Question Time 12.25-2.05 FILM: Happy Together

11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (Ceelax) (s)

11.55 FILM: Grand Slem (1989) with John Walters. Two rival bounty hunters are forced to join forces when they are both hired to find the same man. Directed by Bill L Norton (Ceefax) (s) (212800) 1.25am Weather (7354881)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each TV programme fisting are Video PlusCode "numbers, which issing are video Pius-Coe" numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPius+" handset. Tap in the Video PiusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videopius+ (""), Piuscode ("") and Video Programmer are tradements of Germster Development Ltd. 6.00am Open University: Maths Modelling (7312106) **6.25** Languages for Learning (7324941) **6.50** Of Fish and People

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (4492106)

8.40 The Record (8225293) and Pictures (Ceelax) (s) (3833926) 10.00 Playdeys (r) (s) (6566767) 10.25 Storytime (s) (5785293) 10.45 Science

11.35 Landmarks: Tudors and Stuarts

12.30pm Working Lunch (49019) 1.00 Lifeschool (s) (79828816) 1.25 Revista (86656126) 1.45 Numbertime (s) (94155583) 2.00 Brum (49692336)

3.00 News (Ceefax) (7449106) 3.05 Westminster (Ceefax) (s) (7422941) 3.55 News (Ceefax) and weather

4,00pm World Championship Snooker Live second-round action (5564)

6,45 The O Zone. Music magazine (397496) 7.00 Waiting for God. News comes through that Bayview is to have a royal visit. Tom thinks it is wonderful; Diana doesn't (r)

8.30 Top Gear. Jeremy Clarkson road-tests



Former hitman Giancana (9.00pm)

(Ceelax) (3293)

round action (s) (12477) 10.30 Newsnight (Ceeiax) (493903)

BBC2, 8.00pm

7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (Ceelax) (34274) 8.00 Blue Peter (r) (Ceelax) (s) (1008212) 8.25 Brum (r) 7129598

9.05 The Biology Collection (s) (7721835) 9.30 Techno (8883421) 9.45 Writing Zone (s) (1732903) 11.05 Space Ark (9491651) 11.15 Sex Education (5280941) N.J.: 11.15 Ulster in Focus

(Ceelax) (s) (6292922) 12.00 Shakespeare — the Animated Tales (s) (11748)

2,10 World Championship (5783748)

(2669380)

6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine — The Alternate (794941)

(Ceelex) (s) (3729)

7.30 First Sight (598) N.J.: 7.30 Now You're Talking 7.55 Our Roving Reporter WALES: 7.30 Homeland (598) 8.00 Secrets of the Paranormal:

Gelier (s) (2477) the latest lour-door saloon from Maserali, the Quattroporte. Tiff Needell drives a modern replica of one of the most exclusive race cars ever built, the Jaquar XJ13 (Ceetax) (s) (4212)



9.00 Reputations: Sem Glancena — the Gangster

10.00 World Champlenship Snooker. David Vine introduces more first and second-

11.15 World Championship Snooker. Highlights from the first and second rounds (s) (707516) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (s) (21220)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

Secrets of the Paranormal: Bending Footballs

CHOICE -

Since Uri Geller personally controlled this film he has only himself to blame if viewers are sceptical of his attempts to transfer his spoon-bending prowess to football. Geller's curious exercise starts promisingly enough. Having narrowly failed to win promotion to the Premier League last season, his team, Reading, embark on two of their best cup runs. We are led to believe that this is not unconnected with Geller, who sits in the stand inspiring the team with his psychic powers. Then Reading draw Manchester United in the FA Cup. Will Cantona, Giggs and company fall to Geller's magic? Football fans will recall the answer, and they will know that despite Geller's efforts Reading have slid steadily down the First Division.

Reputations: Sam Giancana BBC2. 9.00pm

As the most powerful gangster in the United States Sam Giancana led the sort of life that documentary film-makers must droot over. But much of it is conjecture and the phrase "according to legend", and variations on it, occurs repeatedly in Christopher Olgiati's film. Speculation and hearsay underpin Olgiati's central thesis. According to this Giancana was approached by old Joe Kennedy to get his boy Jack elected President by swinging votes in Chicago. The city's Mafia boss duly obliged and in a close contest, his intervention could have been decisive. But Giancana was furious when his help was not rewarded and took his revenge at Dallas in November 1963. The conspiracy theory lives again and it is plausibly argued But, as in a previous Olgiati film about the death of Marilyn Monroe, little of the evidence would stand up in court.

Ellington: No Such Thing As a Draw TTV, 9,00pm

Chris Ellison's eponymous sports promoter gets involved in a football plot so serpentine that the programme should offer two Cup Final nickets to the first person who can come up with the correct answer. All that can efully be said in a short space is that a club manager under pressure to sign a star Russian player is actually plotting a deal to further his own career. It is a grubby tale and the more naive among us may like to think that such devious manoeuvring would never happen in real life. Can the game be so cynical? But Julie Welch, who wrote the script, is an experienced football journalist and may not be making it up. Indeed her fictional club, called United, based in the North West and with a tight-lipped Scottish manager, sounds not unlike the one that did for Uri Geller's Reading.

Witness Unahomber Channel 4. 9.00pm

The arrest this month of a former mathematics professor. Theodore Kaczynski, followed the 17-year hunt for a crusader against modern technology whose bombs have killed three people and maimed 23. Whether Kaczynski is the Unabomber must await the course of justice. Meanwhile, Joanna Head's film is an impressive attempt to fill in the background. It shows how, despite the death and destruction he has caused, the Unabomber has become a folk hero. Many Americans support his opposition to what he sees as permicious scientific and economic progress, and his targeting of computers, genetics, pharmacology and airlines. The victims of the Unabomber naturally take a different view while some see not an idealist but a serial murderer hiding behind spurious moral arguments. Peter Waymark 6.00am GMTV (6658552)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (7729477) 9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6543816)

10.00 The Time . . . The Place (s) (2156309) 10.35 This Morning (44956309) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (6563545) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (3499106)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (3407125) 1.25 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (5630767)

2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (54336632) 2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (54355767)

2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (4684941)

3,20 News (Teletext) (7456496) 3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (7455767) 3.30 The Riddlers (r) (£584651) 3.40 The Hiddlers (f) (6584051) 3.40 Wizadora (r) (s) (7309922) 3.50 Rupert (r) (1382748) 4.15 Samson Superskig (Teletext) (s) (2560090) 4.40 Crazy Cottage (Teletext) (s) (5065941)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (6826598) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (878125) 6.00 Home and Away. Travis and Shane go overboard in mid-ocean to escape from a

gang of criminals (1) (Teletext) (s) (325019) 6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (583922)

7.00 Emmerdale. Zoe and Susie discover they have more in common than they thought (Teletext) (s) (3583) 7.30 3-D. Julia Somerville asks whether Britain's education system is failing the country's brightest children (s) (564)

8.00 The Bill: Going for a Song. Carver calls on an old colleggue to investigate an antique clock not yet stolen (Teletext) 8.30 Hollywood Pets, This week; a man whose girlfriends take second place to his iguanas and lizards, the inseparable

Mr Winters (human) and Mr Jiggs (chimp)



Chris Ellison as Ellington (9.00pm)

9.00 Ellington. Ellington gets drawn into a club transfer battle (Teletext) (s) (7019) 10.00 News and weather (Teletext) (65423) 10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (618835)

10,40 On the Line. Ken Rees hosts a live discussion on a topical issue (693816) 11,40 Prisoner Cell Block H. Last in current series (476496) 12,40am Camai Knowledge (4996404)

1,40 Not Fade Away. PJ & Duncan select their tavourite videos (s) (4080794) 2.40 Shift (3269978) 3,35 Late & Loud (r) (s) (9586775) 4.30 The Time . . . The Place (r) (s) (56591)

5.00 Garden Calendar (r) (31794)

5.30 Morning News (26775)

6.25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (583922) 7,30-8.00 Trains (564) 10,40 Strangely Scientific (415274) 11,10-11.40 3-D (356926)

As HTV WEST except:

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except

12.25-12.30 My Story (6571564) 12.55 Emmerdale (3407125) 1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (79823361) 1.55 Home and Away (68930816)

2.25 Vanessa (54346019) 2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (2660516) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6826598) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (44564) 10.30 Westcountry News (609187)

10.45 The LADS. Male magazine series (424922)11.10-11.40 Tales from the Crypt (356926)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12,55 Home and Away (3407125) 1.25 Chain Letters (79823361)

1.55 A Country Practice (44228545) 2.20 Vanessa (54347748) 2.50-3.20 High Road (4684941)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6826598) 6.25 Central News and Weather (333038) 6.55-7.00 Life Line (196854) 10.40 Film: Black Widow (68123106)

1.35am Not Fade Away (4081423) 2.35 Shift (4685220) 3.30 Customs Classified (2524355) 4.15 Jobfinder (8175336)

5.20 Asian Eye (1753794) MERICIAN As HTV West except: 12.55pm Chain Letters (3407125) 1.25 Home and Away (79823361)

1.55 Shortland Street (44228545) 2.20 Vanessa (54347748) 2.50-3,20 Surprise Chefs (4684941) 5.10 Home and Away (6826598) 5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Crimestoppers

(178980)6.00 Meridian Tonight (800) 6.30-7.00 Grass Roots (380) 10.40 Film: Erik the Viking (28838699) 12.25am ITV Sport Mini Classics (5807881) 12.40 Phoenix (4996404)

5.00 Freescreen (31794)

S4C Starts: 6.35 The Adventures of T- Rex (8389458) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (46019) 9.00 The Golden Girls (19380) 9.30 Film: Three Men in a Boat (92666318) 11.10 The Three Stooges (5283038) 11.30 Bush Tucker Man (1583) 12.00 House to House (59336) 12.30pm Hullabelloo (34187) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (49108) 1.30 Film: The Homecoming (41542534) 3.15 The Ricki Lake Show (6440380) 4.00 Jimmy's (293) 4.30 The Lonely Planet (477) 5.00 5 Pump Uned 5 (1361) 5.30 Fifteen to One (729) 6.00 Newyddion (774361) 6.15 Heno (209458) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (603729) 7.25 Corws (861632) 8.00 Cleax (7545) 8.30 Newyddion (9380) 9.00 Pris Y Farchnad (8361) 10.00 Snwcer: Pencampwriaeth (87645) 10.30 Film: Red Rock West (68135941) 12.25am Dispatches 6.35am The Adventures of T-Rex (r) 18389458)

7.00 The Blg Breakfast (46019) 9.00 The Golden Giris (n) (Teletext) (s)

9.30 FILM: Three Men in a Boat (1956) with Laurence Harvey, David Tomlinson and Jimmy Edwards. Jerome K Jerome's classic comic novel about the misadven-tures of a trio of Edwardians on a boating

holiday on the Thames. Directed by Ken Annakin (92666318) 11.10 The Three Stooges (b/w) (5283038) 11.30 Bush Tucker Man (1583) 12.00 House to House(59336) 12,30pm Sesame Street (r) (41670) 1.30 Hullahalloo. Followed by Alfile Atkins

(r) (s) (33458) 2.00 FILM: Confessions of a Nazi Spy (1939, b/w) with Edward G Robinson. Classic anti-Nazi drama about a determined G-man out to smash a German spy ring based in the United States. Directed by Anatole Litvak.

4.00 Jimmy's (r) (Teletext) (293) 4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (477) 5.00 Ricki

Lake (Teletext) (s) (6157057) **5.45 Terrytoons** followed by **Buchstansangur** (142212)

6.00 NBA 24/7. Russell Simmons talks about the successful Def Jam Records and the tashion empire Phat City; and the Coen brothers with Steve Buscemi, the star of their latest thriller Fargo (670)

6.30 Roseanne. Roseanne is rejuctant to loosen the apron strings (r) (Teletext) (s)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (985651)

7.50 The Slot (943019) 8.00 Wild Britain. Wildlife film-maker Maunce Tibbles shows how the development of Stansted airport has been achieved in

8.30 The Real Hollday Show. Holidaymakers record their travel experiences (r)



Victim Dr John Hawser (9.00pm)

9.00 Witness: Una (Teletext) (s) (8361) 10.00 NYPD Blue, A killer tries to avoid a prison sentence by pretending to be insane (Teletext) (s) (457941)

10.55 Whose Line is it Anyway? Improvised comedy (r) (Teletext) (s) (297816) 11.30 Rory Brenner — Who Else?(r) (s) 12.10am Dispatches (r) (Teletext) (3281404) 12.55 FILM: Prejudice (1988) with Patsy Stephen and Grace Parr. An Australian docudrame, based on fact, following the story of two women linked by discrim-

Ends at 2.50

ination Directed by Ian Munro (777152).

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday.

SKY ONE 7.00em Undun (99125) 9.00 Press Your Luck (8206477) 9.20 Love Connection (9437106) 9.45 The Oprah Wintrey Show (2403552) 10.40 Jeopardy! (2413105) 11.10 Sally Jessy Rephael (9321039) 12.00 Beechy (93800) 1.00pm Hotel (92748) 2.00 Geraldo (53935) 3.00 Court TV (9822) 3.30 The Oprah Wintrey Show (5376854) 4.15 Undun (9323903) 5.00 Stat Trek: The Next Generation (1354) 6.00 The Simpsons Simpsons 13540 6.00 The Simpsons Dribun (Secasus) 3-bis size from the trans-Generation (1354) 6.00 The Simpsons (7293) 6.30 Jeopardyl (8545) 7.00 LAPD (1903) 7.30 NPA'STH (4729) 8.00 Through the Keyhole (6421) 8.30 Annual Practice (6459) 9.00 The Controller (27797) 10.00 Star Test The Meet September (35854) (8459) Bub in Contrast (2277) 1000 Star Tesk: The Next, Generation (35554) 11.00 Metrose Place (79361) 12.00 Late Show with David Letterman (7852862) 12.45em CMI Wass (1521620) 1.30 Anything But Love (65862) 2.00 Hit Mix Long Play (1705648)

News on the hour 9.30mm Beyond 2000 (\$8583) 70:30 ASC Nightine (\$6212) 1.30pm CBS News (\$2589) 2.30 Performent Live (4658699) 3.15 Parkement Live (4067380) 6.30 Tonight with A, am Goulton (21670) 7.30 Spartsine (26309) 8.30 Reuters Reports (4800) 11.30 CBS News (20361) 12.30pm ASC News (\$1282) 1.30 Tonight with Adem Boutton Replay (30371) 2.30 Reuters Reports (45442) 3.30 Pastiament Replay (24529) 8.30 CBS News (39794) 5.30 ASC News (88775)

STY MOVIES 5.1 MeOVECS
6.00m All These Women (1984) (26599)
8.00 The Three Faces of Eve (1957)
(44187) 10,00 To Dance with the White
Dog (1883) (86309) 12.00 Almost Summer (1978) (87038) 2.00pm The Poseidon Adventure (1972) [26106) 4.00 A
Christman to Remember (1978) (6106)
6.00 To Dance with the White Dog
(1993) (7804480) 7.70 US Top Ten ()
(77973) 8.00 Corrients (1994) (782545)
11.35 Athack of the 50 Ft Woman (1994)
11.35 Athack of the 50 Ft Woman (1994) 57(106)-1,:10am Convey (1978) (843355) 00 A Part of the Family (1993) (34152) 30 Almost Summer (1978) (34249)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm State Fair (1962) (7748) 6.00 The Narrow Margin (1962) (11212) 8.00 The President's Analyst (1967) (90729) 10.00 The Gaurdiet (1977) (905836) 11.55 Tristana (1970) (740654) 1.35-3.15em Last for a Vempire (1970) (410336) THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00em Meet Me in Les Yeges (1956) (96380) 8.00 Robin Hood Junior (1975) (2980699) 9.05 Thumbelina () (7386552) (290069) 9.05 Thumbelina () (738555) 10.00 Little Miss Broodway (1939) (9365) 12.00 Buck Privates (1941) (9839) (9365) 12.00 Buck Privates (1941) (9830) 2.00pm Grounding Day (1903) (24748) 4.00 Rphin Hood Junior (1975) (3111380) 8.05 Thumbelina (7185903) 6.00 Missing Parents (1963) (1943) (1953) (1964) (1963) (1964)

Sky Movies Gold talks; over from 10pm to 4sm.
6,00em Mupper Bables (49133635) 6,30
Whinle the Proch (49579038) 7,00 Duskales (10907477) 7,30 Dusc Autock (10919212) 2,00 Chip in Dele Rescue Rangers (3318587) 8,30 Adventures in Wonderland (3516768) 9,30 Fragole Rock (26138467) 10,00 Mupper Bables (49559090) 10,30 Proch Corner (33190922) 11,30 Dumbris Cirus (25596561) 12,00 Wan Disney Prescrits (25296651) 12,00 Wanter the Umbrale Tree (20133880) 3,00 Warria the Poch (37444212) 3,30 Duckales (30145125) 4,00 Duck Attack (30124632 4,30 Che) in Dele Rescue Pangers (801268616) 5,00 Boy Maete, World (67423729) 3,30 Denger Bay (8014466) 8,00 Tarzen (80141305) 6,30 Dinosaus (80125361) 7,00 The Tortalescus (8014496) 800 latzar (8014005) 801 latzar (8014005) 8012661) 7.00 ha forienteens (87436283) 7.30 Fasne Tele Trestre (52868083) 8.30 Freezament Special 8242933 8.30-48.00 Diressure (\$2431869)

EUROSPORT 7.30am Equestranism (92800) 8.30 Eurolun (45900) 9.00 Motorcycling Mega-zhe (3280) 9.30 Live Termia (9652496) 4.30 Clympic Magazine (7212) 5.00 Live kes Hockey (2108) 5,30 kes Hockey (34212) 7,00 Live kes Hockey (341354) 9,30 Tornis (65125) 10,30 Pro Wirestling (18057) 11,30 Formula 1 (88274) 12,00-12,30am Mistorcycling Magacine (65648) SKY SPORTS

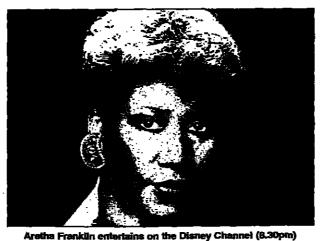
SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centro (13729) 7.30 Wresting (70832) 8.30 Rusing (23632) 9.00
Aerobots (47212) 9.30 Futbol Mundel (51903) 10.00 West Indias v New Zasiend (7187) 12.00 Aerobots (34748) 12.30pm international Football: England v Creata (3090) 2.30 frame World Sport (25903) 4.00
Nescer Supernucks (44039) 5.00 Wresting (6545) 6.00 Sports Centre (2039) 6.30
Formula 3 Racing (4361) 7.00 Rugby (72309) 8.00 Nebusters (518944) 8.65
Sports Centre (803748) 9.00 Bootsmall (61231) 10.00 Sports Centre (35477) 10.30
Rugby (13999) 11.30 Futbol Mundel (94106) 12.00 Nebusters (82520) 1.00am Bootsmall (16591) 2.00-2.30 Sports Centre SKY SPORTS 2 SKY SPORTS 2

7.00pas Golf (3755564) 9.00 LIS PGA Golf — Live (9801835) 11.00 Stoff Safing (7530274) 11.30 Formula: 3 Roong (1128980) 12.00-1.00em Trans World Sport (4866888) THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL 4.00mm Thought for the Day 4.05 Worship 4.15 Kidz TV 4.30 700 Club 5.00 Voice of Victory 5.30 Christian Music TV 5.45 Tris is Your Day with Benny Hinn SKY SOAP

7.00pm Guiding Light (8435651) 7.55 As the World Turns (1015583) 8.50 Peyton Place (\$167498) 9.20 Days of Our Lives (7537421) 18.10-11.00 Another World (3690800) SKY TRAVEL 11.00em Globelrotter (7548293) 11.30 Sports Venetions (7549922) 12.00 Moving Postcards (5462962) 12.30pm Spice of Life (1945748) 1.00 Getenary (3774699) 1.30 Around the World (1944019) 2.00 Everest. The Australian Expedition (2673465) 3.00 Globelrotter (4874090) 3.30 Around the World (7087212) 3.55-4.00 Holiday Shop

7.00am Angels (1980274) 7.30 Neighbours (198339) 8.00 Sons and Daughlers (398800) 8.30 EartEnders (398689) 9.00 The Bail (393285) 9.30 The Sullivans (1512106) 70.00 All Creatures Great and Small (1678293) 11.00 Buiksays (7713903) 11.30 Odd One Ou (9707090) 12.05pcs Sons and Daughlers (23304787) 12.30 Noighbours (1516922) 1.00 EastEndert THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Cur Century (7539545) 5.00 Memories of 1980 (4898870) 6.00-7.00 Biography (1963787)



THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 1,00am The Six Million Dollar Man (3387317) 2,00 FR.M. World of Dracula (6560607) 3,40-4,00 Set-6 Buzz (56522317)

9.00am Surprise Cheis (363(293) 9.30 Grow Your Own (1510748) 10.00 Stagestruck (469632) 10.30 Our House (3636477) 11.00 Room for Improvement (7711543) 11.30 Crafflyte (771274) 12.00 Julia Child (3627729) 12.30pm The Frugel Gournat (1514564) 1.00 Yan Can Cook (1657167) 1.30 Furmiture to Go (1513835) 2.00 Our House (8051361) 2.30 Gardens Wiffout Bordens Special (6096212) 3.00 Screaming Reels (8070496) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (6905729) UK GOLD

8,00em Pugwali (62105) 6.30 Degrassi Junior High (80038) 7.00 Ready or Not (12125) 7.30 California Dicertis (31632) 8,00 Siyer Grove (68729) 8.30 Saved by the Bell (87800) 9.00 The New Pink Parther tre Bell (67800) 9.00 The Naw Pink Parther Show (74380) 9.00 Geried (2889) 10.00 Esk the Cat (64890) 10.30 Creepy Crawlers (70564) 11.00 Casper and Friends (64816) 11.30 Dichobeles (65645) 12.00 Barney (61816) 12.30pm Tmy and Crew (80632) 1.30 Sesame Street (81381) 2.30 Tmy and Crew (6748) 3.00 Esk the Cat (6106) 3.30 The New Pink Parther Show (1293) 4.00 Cationia Dreams (7800) 4.30-8.00 Saved by the Bell (9212)

Superiors (1904) Superiors (1904) 4.30 Tales of the Crypticeper (1274) 4.30 Rugrals (7458) 5.00 Scare Sister (8369) 5.30 Secret World of Alex Mack (1038) 6.00 Ren and Strepy (1651) 6.30-7.00 Clartssa (2903) DISCOVERY 4.00pm Time Travellers (6917564) 4.30 Human/Nature (6913748) 5.00 Treesure Hunters (8075941) 5.30 Voyaget (6824800) 6.00 Ambutancet (6927941) 6.30 Bevond 2000 (9614187) 7.30 Mysteries, Magic and Mitracles (9914477) 8.00 The Professionals (4436019) 9.00 Top Marques (7731309) 9.30 Dessiter (1421800) 10.00 Classac Wheels (4442670) 11.00-12.00 The Senual Imperative (1677564)

NICKELODEON

(4065309) 1.35 Syles (2362854) 2.15 Brush Shokes (3025699) 2.50 Butterflies (3789458) 3.30 The Bill (6907187) 4.00 Minder (65697351) 5.05 Eveny Second Counts (5120309) 5.45 'Alio 'Alio (940583) 8.25 EastEnders (696569) 7.00 The Two Romaies (4429729) 8.00 Buttery (8073589) 8.30 Home James (305209) 9.00 Minder (4441941) 10.00 The Bill (2512545) 10.35 Bottom (6464496) 11.10 The Sweeney (2480080) 12.10mm Classic Sport (3347607) 1.10 Public Eye (1742336) 2.06-9.00 Shopping (1029355) 12.00 FiLM: The Mesa of Lost Women (9919564) 1.30pm Death Velloy Des (1500361) 2.00 Department S (4584187) 3.00 Danger Man (7710816) 4.00 FiLM: Accident (8078038) 5.00 The Green Hornot (9921767) 8.30 Department S (983941) 7.90 Weekly World News (6901907) 8.00 Danger of the Rese (407845) 9.00 Twen Planet of the Apes (4423545) 9,00 Twm Peaks (4443309) 10,00-12,00 FiLM

7.00pm Delirent Stokes (5815) 7.30 Entertamment (8187) 8.00 Due South (89899) 9.00 Sosp (31564) 9.30 Tast (73125) 10.00 Frazier (33019) 10.30 Dr Katz (42767) 11.00 Frazier (33019) 10.30 Dr Katz (42767) 11.00 Frazier (32748) 12.00 Dommon Tank (95602) 12.30em Betson (96684) 1.00 Wings (20442) 1.30 Laverno and Shrivey (79620) 2.00 Entertailment (41775) 2.30 Dr Katz (53510) 3.00 Reh and Strace (89078) 3.304.15 Body and Strepy (89978) 3.30-4.15 Rocky and Bulletine (8744788)

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BRAYO

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6.00em Kiroy (\$657699) 7.00 Esther (485941) 7.30 The Young and the Resiless (4662106) 6.30 Going to Pot (6440274) 9.00 The Taste of Health (8479019) 8.35 Kate and Alia (897729) 10.05 Jerry Springer (8450854) 11.00 The Young and the Resiless (8943019) 11.55 Brookside (4745380) 12.30pm Dangerius Women (9217564) 1.25 Crosswits (6567822) 2.00 Agony Hour (2240923) 3.00 Live at Three (6525477) 4.00 Intalustion UK (2182458) 4.30 Crosswits (3879486) 5.05 Lingo (59047570) 5.30 Licky Ladders (2195622) 6.00 Beautiched (2192836) 6.30 Brookside (690699) 7.05 Machael Berry's Cholce Cuts (4226535) 7.35 The Joker's Wild (6115459) 8.00 Street Legal (3744816) 9.00 FILM: Pottest of 3 Showget (79861293) 10.55 Entertainment Nowl (1189729) 11.00-12.00 The Sex Flex 8 (4811361) FAMILY CHANNEL 6.00mm Banana Sandwich (97552) 7-00 Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (44699) 7-30 Attack of the Killer Tomeroes (A4859) 7-30 Thu Lutlest Pat Shop (23105) 8.00 Wishbone (22903) 8.30 Rude Dog and the Dueebs (21274) 9.00 Biter Mice from Mars (45854) 9.30 Clanssa (59545) 10.00 Rugrats (96564) 10.30 Asashin Real Monters (41038) 11.00 Rocko's Modern Life (48800) 11.30 Doug (29729) 12.00 Sater Sister (25090) 12.30pm The Advontures of Pete and Pete (53361) 1.00 Capitol Critical (36570) 1.30 Pet Shop (55632 7.00 Wishbone (1800) 2.30 Rude Dog and the Dweets (7963) 3.00 Count Ductols (3835) 3.30 Teerage Mutant Hero Turtles (2767)

FAMILY CHANNEL 5.00pm Bongues Diner (4651) 5.30 Night Hood (9944) 6.00 Balman (7477) 6.30 Catchphrase (8729) 7.00 Timed Pursuit (1187) 7.30 Me and the Boys (4011) 8.00 The Bederbecke Affair (82187) 8.00 The both Bederbecke Affair (82187) 8.00 The (1187) 7.30 Me and the Boys (4011) 8.00 The Bederbodie Affair (S2187) 8.00 The Buth Rendell Mysteries: Wolf to the Staughter (81421) 10.00 Tressure Hunt (15038) 11.00 Swers (98545) 12.00 Trivial Pursul (56979) 12.30 ato Me and the Boys (13012) 1.00 Betman (38268) 1.30 At Together Now (52336) 2.00 Big Brother Johe (9649) 2.30 Seres (37965) 3.30 At Together Now (99336) 4.00 Trivial Pursul (70201) 4.30-5.00 Night Hood (19133) MTV

7.30mm Boyz II Men Rockumentary (93090) 8.00 Morning Mix Featuring Chrematic (724632) 11.00 Star Trox (19038) 12.00 Greatest Hits (28800) 1.00pm Music Non-stop (67941) 3.00 Select MTV (78019) 4.00 Hanging Out (37922) 5.30 Deal MTV (2922) 5.00 Scap Dich (9838) 6.30 The Big Proture M8707.7 90 Star Town (19036) 9.00 Exercise (19036) 9.00 Star Town (19036) 9.00 Exercise (4877) 7.00 Star Trax (18125) 8.00 Evening Mix (54545) 9.00 X-ray Eyes (87767) 10.30 Beavis & Butl-Head (73651) 11.00 Headtangers Ball (62318) 1.00am Videos (1831997) 5.00 Morning Mx (51881)

7.00mm Power Bresidast (3766670) 9.00 Cale VH-1 (5556534) 12.00 Hear and Soul (1959411 1.00pm The Vinyl Years (1935361) 2.00 Ten of the Best UB40 (4208313) 3.00 Inm the Maxic (1379545)

You (9991458) 8.00 Thursday Review (9800106) 9.00 Ten of the Best. Marc Almond (9819870) 19.00 The Viryl Years (9890729) 11.00 Music First (3753108) 12.00 VH-7 to 1. Tina Tumer (2227046) 12.30pm The Bridge (7259355) 1.00 Ten of the Best; Kim Wilde (9389775) 2.00 Dawn Patrol

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7.00am Jsagran (45493729) 7.30 Zee Presents ... (37878125) 9.00 Farm Cresker (26575380) 9.30 Your Zindagi (25673841) 10.00 Tara (46401748) 11.00 Shelidi (88412458) 11.30 FILM (50249821) 2.30pm Buriyand (83367835) 3.00 Uroosa (6847903) 4.00 Zee Top Ten (84836503) 5.00 Zee Zone (27225187) 5.30 Sa Re Ga Ma (8592583) 6.30 Zee S U (83359816) 7.00 Hero Kal Aaj Aur Kal (27208651) 7.30 Galagzae (82275807) 8.00 News (27224699) 8.30 Andez (27203105) 9.00 Urds Serial (95708125110.00 Zee Horter (25553545) 10.30 Yaadon Ke Rang (19572293) 11.00 Commander (68437767) 11.30-12.00 Aap Kr Emmisht (38224106) CARTOON METWORK (FINT CARTOON NETWORK/THT

PERFORMANCE 7.00pm Fela — Teacher Don't Teach Me Nonsense 8.00 Aria 8.30 Mats Eks Gaselle 10.00 Tchakovsky's Symphony No 6 11.00 Ana 12.00-1.00 James Morrison

BBC WORLD News on the hour.
8.05am The Big Trip 9.30 The Clothes Show 10.30 Top Geer 1.05pm Horzon 2.15 World Business 2.30 Newshour Asia and Pocific 3.30 Machini Jaffirey's Far Eastern Cookery 4.05 The Americae 5.50 Crip Factor

Eastern Cookery 4.05 The Patrick Correspondent One Foot in the Past 8.05 Correspondent Tomograph's World 12.10am

GRIFFITHS TAKES DRAMATIC VICTORY

THURSDAY APRIL 25 1996

Laudrup brothers torment defence

Scotland make no allowance for family link

FROM KEVIN McCARRA IN COPENHAGEN

SIBLING rivalry can do terrifying damage. Last night, however, neither of the brothers engaged in it suffered any harm. Instead, the Laudrups, with their attempts to outdo one another in agility of mind and nimbleness of foot, punished Scotland as Denmark won a slick victory in the Parken stadium here.

The visiting team at least possessed the sturdiness of spirit that allowed them to reduce the embarrassment in the second half, but, inadequate in defence and insufficiently accomplished in attack. they have, on the evidence of this defeat, little to look forward to in the European championship finals in June. For the winners of this match. who are the holders, the future looks wholly different.

It is a token of Denmark's resources that the football community here can become irritable when discussing Michael Laudrup, sighing over his supposed failure to nurture the talent he displayed as a teenager. Most countries would cherish a wastrel whose record resembled that of the Real Madrid player.

scored 34 goals in 86 appearances for Denmark, even though he has, for several

ACROSS

trait) (3)

1 Petty-minded official (9)

8 Cheat of money (7)

9 Raptor's claw (5)

of cross (6)

21 Free time (7)

18 Worry with teeth (4)

6 Take (exam); pose (for por-

10 OT book: - Pound, US poet

11 Showing moral, artistic de-

13 Type of TV comedy series

14 A football team; ringed sort

20 Bored, no longer impressed

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London E28SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names

BRITISH MIDLAND

creator than a forward. This game invited him to enhance is ratio since his team, with only one more international, against Ghana, before they begin the defence of the European championship were restless and eager to demonstrate

Laudrup's goal, in the sev-enth minute, owed more to inept defending than to flair, however. Hendry allowed Beck to sneak into space behind him and, when a ball struck down the Scotland left slipped past the centre half, the Fortuna Koln player was free to race to the byline.

McMahon's joy Sugar turns sour

Beck, whom Rangers have persistently been interested in signing, squared the ball and faint deflection from McKimmie allowed Laudrup to pivot and stroke the ball home. A loss of concentration had put Denmark in command but Richard Moller Nielsen's team have no need of such inadvertent assistance.

The other Laudrup was soon insisting on taking his turn to torment, squaring. after quarter of an hour, for Beck to hit a drive that with a boot. The Laudrups were harassing Scotland like men avenging an ancient

22 Piece; horse's mouthpiece

1 (Machinery) vibrates abnor-

2 As an ordinary seaman

4 Ship's steering device (6)

7 Item of belief, dogma (5)

17 Skewered and grilled meat

12 A Frenchman (8)

15 Cattle-minder (7)

19 (In) place (of) (4)

16 US space station (6)

Trouble (one gets into) (3.5)

Eloquent, persuasive (6-7)

23 Sprang back again (9)

maily (7)

3 Feeble (4)

skills was not alarming enough, those gifts also

defenders. When those arts were combined, in the 27th minute, Scotland fell a further player eased the ball through the middle and his brother ran on to finish in his favoured manner by strolling round the

with which Scotland were being trounced could not divert the onlooker from troubling over the visiting team's inability to cope with dangers that had been expected. Craig Brown's team has taken a modest pride in denying more flamboyant sides but that knack appears to be deserting them just as the European championship approaches.

ments were experienced men.

Were it not for their distress. Scotland's followers might have recoiled at the thought that this was a fixture in which their team had hoped to discover an effective pairing in attack. The visiting team were unable to advance frequently enough to carry out the intended experiments.

occasion merited respect.

He had fashioned Scotinterval, taking McAllister's pass and sliding play on for that Schmeichel fended away. A lay-bit by Spencer reach

This vitality in the later stages said much for Scotland's powers of endurance and also spoke of Denmark's leniency in a game that they

Michael loves to pass and Brian delights in striding past

Admiration for the swagger

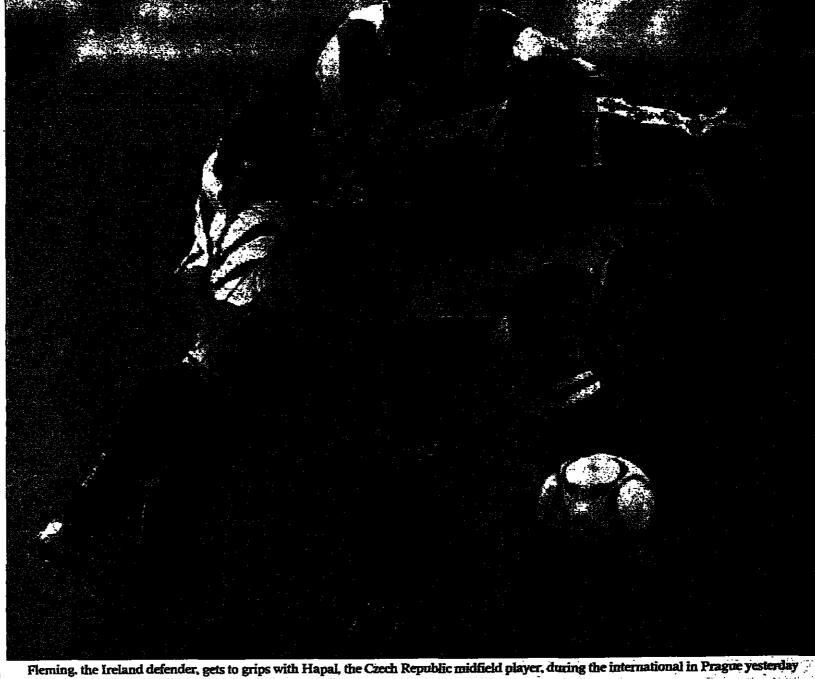
The defence, to be fair, was altered a little last night because of the absence of Calderwood and McLaren, both injured, but the replace-

Given the bleak circumstances, however, Spencer's capacity to catch the eye on

iand's only chance before the Gallagher to strike a drive McAllister soon afterwards and his drive ran just wide.

lemency in a game that they had already won handsomely. DeNMARK (3-5-2): P Schmeichel (Manchester United; sub: M Krogh, Brondby 45mm) — M Riesper (West Ham United). L Olsen (Brondby), J Risager (Brondby) — P Helveg (Udinese), C Thomsen (Dewich Town), M Laudrup (Real Madrid; sub: A Nielsen, Brondby, 85), B Nielsen (DB Odense), M Schjonberg (DB Odense) — B Laudrup (Rangers), M Beck (Fortuna Koln).

SCOTLAND (3-5-2): J Leighton (Hibernian, sub; A Goram, Rangers, 45) — S



Kuka makes Irish pay for erro

Czech Republic

Ireland ...

FROM PETER BALL IN PRAGUE

THE Czech Republic finally Stadium yesterday. Mick Mc-Carthy, the Ireland manager. could, however, take encouragement from his team's performance in his second game in charge until defensive mistakes allowed Kuka two free runs on goal inside eight

minutes after the hour. That left Ireland looking well beaten at the close, but until then a side which began with two new caps, and had a third added when an injury ended Denis Irwin's participa-tion at the interval, had more

than held their own. Kenny Cunningham, the Wimbledon defender, had an excellent debut, and if Alan Moore, of Middlesbrough, was quieter, the performances of Kennedy and Houghton, at either end of the age spectrum. gave Ireland plenty of hope. The new system and the new team is beginning to bed in

'l thought we played very well in the first half," McCarthy said. "We created the better chances before the intersloppy passes by us rather than them creating anything, but then bad defending cost us the first goal and when we started chasing it, we lost our shape and looked like conceding more, which is what we did. But I could be pleased

with the first half." Ireland might even have led at the interval. Irwin had a strong appeal for a penalty turned down when Latal appeared to pull him down as he tried to cut the ball back from the byline, and Quinn saw a couple of headers test Kouba.

Given had also had to make one or two saves before the interval, in particular stretching to take the ball off Kuka's toe as the Czech Republic forward went round him. That was matched by Kouba's save Babb's mistakes were beginfrom Houghton at close range as Kennedy's clever pass created the opening. Czech minds have been on

the ice hockey championships in Vienna this week rather than on football, and the sparse crowd did little to broke dangerously from mid-field twice, but Cunningham shepherded him away to safety both times. Alongside Cunningham,

Babb was less secure and when Drulak beat him through the middle, Irwin had to come across to make the saving tackle, in the process collecting the kick on the calf which ended his participation. Ireland were having the better of things, an impression confirmed when Repka was booked for a foul on Townsend and again when Kadlec had to block Kennedy's shot after the ball had run loose when Kouba challenged

Ireland began the second

half in similar vein, but

ning to increase. Given came to the rescue when he gave the ball away to let in Kuka, but there was no such relief when Babb left Kuka free to collect a return pass from Bejbi before drawing Given and slipping the ball square for Frydek to

Daish immediately replaced Babb, but before he had had time to settle down, the second goal arrived. Again it came down the left as Hapal's pass found Kuka running free. Given for once betrayed his youth with an impetuous rush, and Kuka evaded him easily to score.

That was effectively that. Given made a good save to deny the dangerous Berger and Kerbr saw a shot fly narrowly wide, but the last chance fell to Ireland as Moore shot straight at Kouba

(Sparia Progue). — R Lathi (Schalta Ott. sub: P Nedved, Sparia Progue, 60; M Frydek (Sparia Progue), V Netnacok (Servette: sub: R Bejbl, Slavia Progue, 45; P Berger (Bonasia Gottmund), P Hapel (CO Tematie). — R Drubek (Petra Omoyés), P Kulta: (Kusenskautem; sub: M Kerbr, Streen (Petra). 29) Sioma Olomouc, 78).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND (3-5-2): \$ Given

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Wigan and Bath win concession

(RFU) officials met representatives of the two clubs, the local police and British Transport Police yesterday. Though they have always been aware that a limit would be placed on the crowd because of engineering works on the railway line between Reading and Waterloo, Bath and Wigan reacted to the original limit

Both seek to make as much money as possible from the two matches, the first of which is to be held at Maine Road, Manchester, and played rugby league rules on May 8.

Both clubs have agreed to run as many coaches to Twickenham as possible, thereby hoping to avoid overcrowding on the railway lines. No tickets for the match, to be played under union rules, will be for sale on the day.

TOMORROW

BATH and Wigan have won

a concession over the attendance at Twickenham on May 25 for the second of their cross-code rugby meetings (David Hands writes). A limit of 50,000 spectators will be put on the match which, while 25.000 short of the stadium capacity, is still 12,500 more than the police were prepared to permit at the weekend. Rugby Football Union

with dismay.

The Times county-by-county guide to the cricket season

10 Sweep 11 Torpedo 13 Syndicate 17 Resting 19 Coper 20 Tamil 22 Haulage 23 Conform 24 Byre DOWN: I Robust 2 Consensus 3 Make things hum 4 Cater 5 Ban 6 Employ 7 Coupon 12 Exemplary 14 Accrue 15 Critic 16 Frieze 18 Igloo 21 Man

Lewis convinced he can recapture world title By Our Sports Staff

judge's ruling will stand and

LENNOX LEWIS believes Mike Tyson must face him to force Tyson to make his next legitimise his claim to be the defence against him, said that leading heavyweight in the world. Lewis has gone to the he would knock Tyson down and reclaim the title he held in courts in his efforts to secure a match against the American Douglas, but I have better and last month a New Jersey tools than Douglas," Lewis judge ruled that he must be the next challenger for the said of the man who knocked World Boxing Council (WBC)

"I don't believe Tyson can actually say he is the best in the world, yet not fight me," Lewis said. "I believe Tyson is a warrior and would want to take on the challenge."

Lewis had argued that the WBC was ignoring its own 1995 ruling that he should challenge for the title next, having beaten Lionel Butler in a title elimination bout. Instead, the WBC sanctioned Tyson's clash with Frank Bruno last month.

Lewis vowed to compensate British boxing supporters for Bruno's performance against Tyson if he gets the chance to challenge for title. Tyson just went out there and beat him up," Lewis said of Tyson's third-round victory over his fellow Briton. "Bruno did all that talking, saying he would do this and that, and really he exposed himself and just embarrassed himself. He not only let himself down, but the British public."

Lewis, who hopes the

Madison Square Garden on The Briton, beaten only once in 29 professional bouts.

both hands. I could do that." Lewis made his comments

during a news conference in

New York, held to promote a

heavyweight triple-header at

Lewis: confident

will meet Ray Mercer, the 1988 Olympic gold medal-winning American, in the second bout on the card.

Evander Holyfield, the for-mer undisputed heavyweight "It would be just like Buster champion, takes on his fellow American, Bobby Czyz, in the featured bout, while the Amer-Tim Witherspoon, will meet Jorge Gonzalez, of Cuba, in the opening out Tyson six years ago in the champion's only defeat. "[1] not go in there looking for the knockout, but I have power in

Michael Moorer, of the United States is to take on Axel Schulz, of Germany, for the vacant International Boxing Federation heavyweight (IBF) title on June 22, probably in

The final hurdle to the IBF title bout was cleared yesterday when a United States Court of Appeal prevented Frans Botha, the South African, from seeking further injunctions against the Moorer-

Schulz contest. A federal court ordered the IBF to strip Botha of the title after he had failed a drugs test for steroids following a controversial victory over Schulz in December to win the title. Moorer lost his IBF crown to George Foreman on a tenth-round knockout in

The winner of the Moorer-

Schulz meeting will be in line

to take on Tyson, who is

aiming to recapture the undisputed championship.